BurdaStyle
modern sewing

dresses FOR EVERY OCCASION

23 Designs

Casual, Vintage, Trendy, and Formal Styles

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modern sewing

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Dresses for Every Occasion

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Contents

Introduction

BurdaStyle Patterns 101

Chapter 1: Vintage

- Vintage Chic Sheath
- ’70s Simple Luxe Lace Dress
- ’50s Summer Sundress
- A Little Bit Audrey Sheath
- Beguiling in Blue Jacket and Skirt
- Très Tweed Mock Two-Piece

Chapter 2: Trendy
Red Hot Mini
Blue Angles Asymmetrical Dress
Purple Party Tunic and Cowl Top
Summer Origami Sheath

Chapter 3: Casual

- Hand-Stamped Tunic
- Summer Tie-Dye Lace-Up Dress
- Sunshine Bangle Wrap Dress
- Urban Ikat Sleeveless Dress
- The Jersey Plunge V-Neck Dress and Top
- Blooming Bouclé Cap-Sleeved Dress

Chapter 4: Formal
Delicately Scalloped Skirt
The Artful Jacket
Princess Taffeta Dress
Sophisticated Silk V-Neck Dress and Pleated Lace V-Neck Dress
Fit and Flare Frock
Little Black Dress
Glossary of Terms and Techniques
Simplifying the Serger
Resources and Credits

Introduction

There’s just something about dresses. They’re easy to wear, they come in shapes and cuts to fit every curve, they cross over between seasons, and they instantly elevate your style with a single garment. Even better? With the right skills, they can be easy to DIY!

In *Dresses for Every Occasion*, we’re honoring the dress in the way only BurdaStyle can—with unique, wearable patterns inspired by the latest trends. Within these pages, you’ll find a great variety of dresses from everyday to special occasion, including vintage, modern, and formfitting designs.

Dresses are my favorite thing to sew. I take great pride in walking into a room and knowing no one else there owns what I'm wearing or has ever seen it on a rack or a runway. And now it's your turn. Dive into the styles within these pages, whether you want to create the dresses exactly as-is or modify them slightly to suit your body type or personal style.

Don't be afraid to challenge your sewing skills! Work with new fabrics, including satin, lace, and jersey, and try new garment-making and finishing techniques, which we illustrate and outline in our detailed step-by-step instructions.

No matter what your style—or what the occasion—we've got a dress that will certainly impress.

Denise Wild

Editorial Director, BurdaStyle US

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BurdaStyle Patterns 101

If you've never used a BurdaStyle pattern before or you need a refresher course, this guide will help make your garments a sure success. BurdaStyle patterns are slightly different than those from other publishers, so read through these instructions thoroughly before you begin your project.

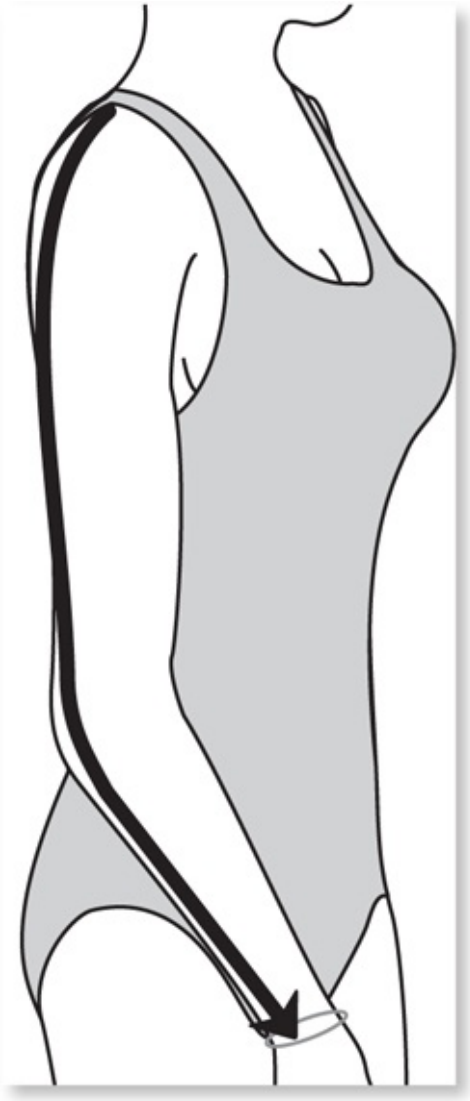
Using BurdaStyle Patterns—Step by Step

Follow the steps below to ensure the best results when working with BurdaStyle patterns.

Step 1: Measure yourself and determine your BurdaStyle pattern size

For the best fit, it's important to take precise measurements. Remember that your BurdaStyle size will most likely be different from your regular store-bought clothing size. Measure your body while wearing underwear or close-fitting garments, and have someone assist you if needed. Use a flexible measuring tape to measure around your body, ensuring the tape is taut, but not tight, and parallel to the floor. Stand upright with a relaxed posture and breathe normally while you take the standard body measurements for garment sewing. Start by measuring your bust, waist, and hips.

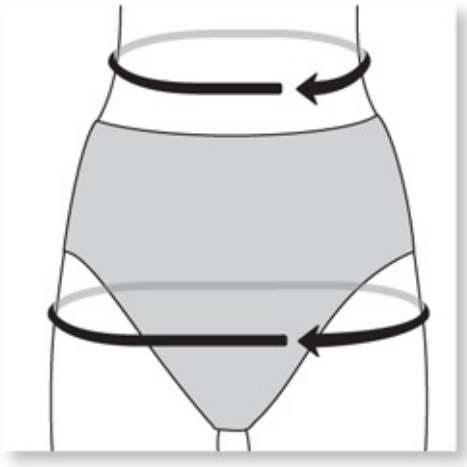
Arm length: With your arm slightly bent, measure from the tip of your shoulder over the elbow to the natural wrist line.



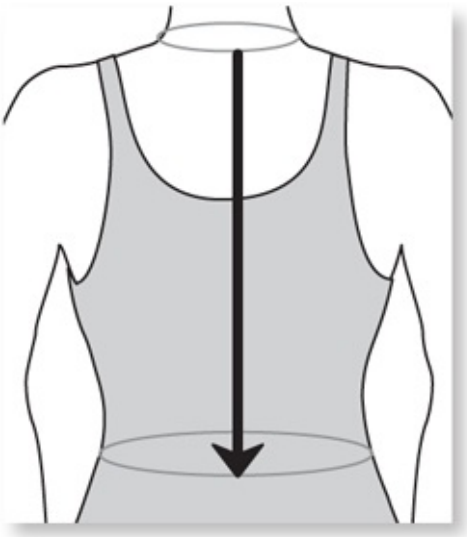
Bust: Measure around the fullest part of your bust.

Waist: Measure around your natural waist, the narrowest part.

Hips: Measure horizontally around the fullest part of your bottom and upper thighs.



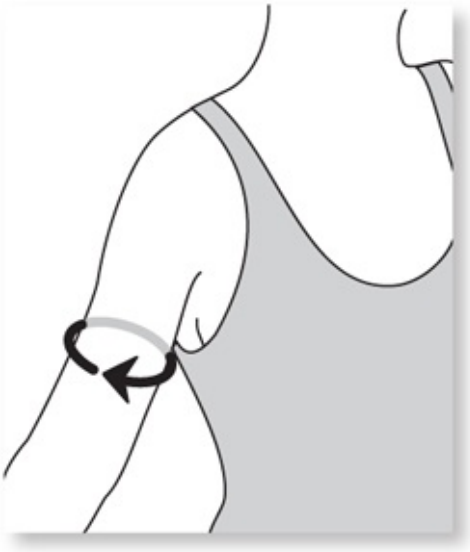
Back waist length: Measure from the base of your neck to the natural waistline.



Front waist length: Measure from the side base of your neck over the apex of your bust to the natural waistline.

Bust depth: Measure from the side base of your neck to the apex of the bust.

Upper arm circumference: Measure around the fullest part of your upper arm.



Neck circumference: Measure the circumference at the base of your neck and above the collarbone.

Step 2: Purchase your fabric and notions

The pattern instructions will tell you how much fabric and what notions to buy. The amount of fabric needed is based on the width of the fabric, the size you're making, and whether or not the fabric has nap. The notions list will include details about finishing items for the garment, such as the number and size of buttons, the zipper length and type, the elastic width and length, closures, and so on.

Compare your body measurements to the BurdaStyle size charts below.

> **TIP:** Circle each of your body measurements on the BurdaStyle size charts. You may want to adjust your pattern to fit a range of sizes across different measured areas of your body.

WOMEN'S SIZE CHART (Regular) inches

BURDA SIZE	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58	60
HEIGHT	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼
BUST	30	31½	33	34¾	36¼	37¾	39½	41	43½	45½	48	50½	52¾	55¼	57½
WAIST	23	24½	26	27¾	29¼	30¾	32½	34	36¼	38¾	41	43½	45½	48	50½
HIPS	32½	34	35½	37	38¾	40¼	41¾	43½	45½	48	50½	52¾	55¼	57½	60
BACK WAIST LENGTH	15¾	16	16¼	16½	16⅝	16¾	17	17⅛	17¼	17½	17¾	18	18¼	18½	18½
ARM LENGTH	23¼	23¼	23¼	23¾	23¾	24	24	24	24	24½	24½	24¾	24¾	24¾	24¾
NECK CIRCUMFERENCE	13	13⅜	13¾	14⅛	14½	15	15⅜	15¾	16⅛	16½	17	17¼	17¾	18⅛	18½
FRONT WAIST LENGTH	16½	17	17¼	17¾	18⅛	18½	19	19¼	19¾	20¼	20½	21	21¼	21¾	22¼
BUST DEPTH	9½	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞	12¼	12¾	13	13½	14¼	14½	14¾	15
UPPER ARM CIRCUMFERENCE	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞	12¼	12¾	13½	14½	15	15¾	16½	17¼	18¼

View a text version of this table

WOMEN'S SIZE CHART (Petite) inches

These sizes are BurdaStyle petite sizes and differ in height from the regular sizes. If you are taller than 63 inches, you can make alterations to the length of the garment, the sleeve length, etc. to fit your measurements.

BURDA SIZE	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
HEIGHT	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
BUST	30	31½	33	34¾	36¼	37¾	39½	41
WAIST	23	24½	26	27¾	29¼	30¾	32½	34
HIPS	32½	34	35½	37	38¾	40¼	41¾	43½
BACK WAIST LENGTH	15	15¼	15⅜	15¾	16	16⅛	16¼	16⅜
ARM LENGTH	22½	22½	22½	23	23	23¼	23¼	23¼
NECK CIRCUMFERENCE	13	13⅜	13¾	14⅛	14½	15	15⅜	15¾
FRONT WAIST LENGTH	15¾	16¼	16½	17	17¼	17¾	18⅛	18½
BUST DEPTH	9⅛	9½	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞
UPPER ARM CIRCUMFERENCE	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞	12¼	12¾

View a text version of this table

Metric Conversion Chart		
To Convert	**To**	**Multiply By**
Inches	Centimeters	2.54
Centimeters	Inches	0.4
Feet	Centimeters	30.5
Centimeters	Feet	0.03
Yards	Meters	0.9
Meters	Yards	1.1

Step 3: Cut out the appropriate pattern pieces

The next step is to locate the proper pattern pieces on the pattern insert pages and then cut them out.

Note: The BurdaStyle patterns available on the insert sheets ***include seam and hem allowances.*** *Standard seam allowances are ⅝" (1.5 cm) and hems are 1⅝" (4 cm). If these differ, there will be a note on the pattern instructions indicating the new numbers.*

Here are some tips for working with the pattern pieces:

- In each garment's pattern overview box (Figure 1), you'll find the color of the pattern line (red, blue, green, or black), the pattern sheet location (A–H), the pattern piece numbers, the size outlines, and the schematics of the pattern piece flats.

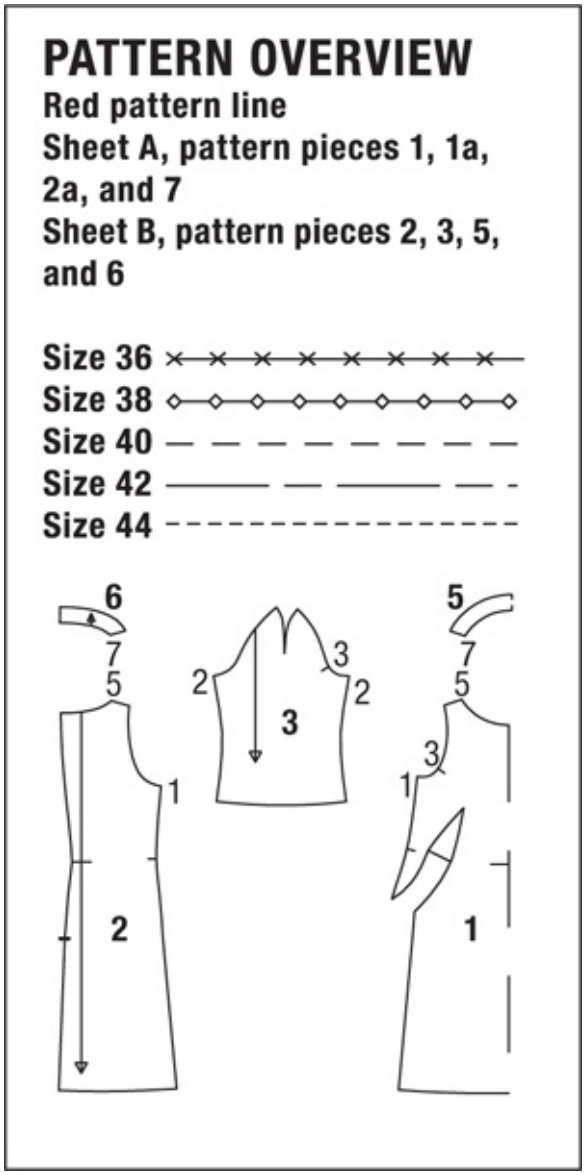


Figure 1

- To locate the pattern pieces, look for each pattern piece number in the stated color along the edge of the appropriate pattern sheet. For example, if your garment has its pattern in green on sheet C and

includes pieces 1 to 7, look along the edges of pattern sheet C to find the number 1 written in green. Once you've found that, use it as your starting point to follow an imaginary line perpendicular to the pattern sheet edge until you point to the green 1 along a pattern piece cutting line. That's the pattern piece you need. Do the same for the remaining pattern piece numbers.

- Trace the pattern pieces onto pattern paper and copy all markings and seam numbers onto your new paper pattern pieces (Figure 2). Check them against the drawings in the instructions to ensure they were copied correctly and that you have all the pieces needed.

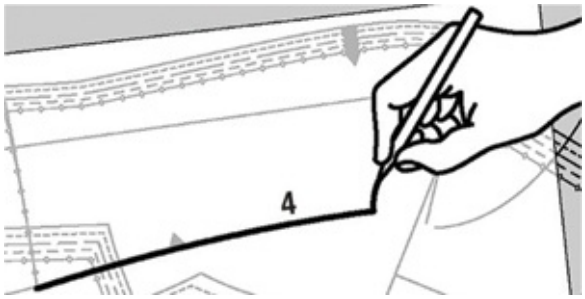


Figure 2

- Once you have the proper pattern pieces, cut them out individually. Then lay them on your garment fabric and cut the fabric accordingly (Figure 3). Transfer all markings from the pattern pieces to your fabric.

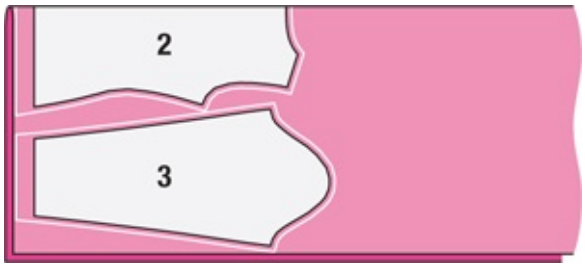


Figure 3

- In some instances, you will draft shapes to make your own small pattern pieces, like bindings, ties, etc. Simply follow the instructions for the dimensions needed and draw them right on the fabric using tailor's chalk.

Cutting Made Easy

You'll have greater success, and more fun sewing your own clothes, if you understand these few simple rules about cutting your fabric.

Grainline

The grainline is the direction of the warp threads, which run lengthwise through the fabric. The way your garment drapes depends on cutting your fabric along the correct grainline. When you lay your pattern pieces out on your fabric, make sure the grainline drawn on the pattern is parallel to the selvedges.

Extend the grainline drawn on the pattern piece to the top and bottom edges of the pattern. First pin the piece to the fabric only at the top end of the grainline. Measure the distance from the grainline to the selvedge. Then pin the bottom end of the pattern, measuring again from the grainline to the selvedge. When the two distances are equal, your pattern is on the correct grainline. Finish pinning the pattern piece to the fabric (Figure 1).

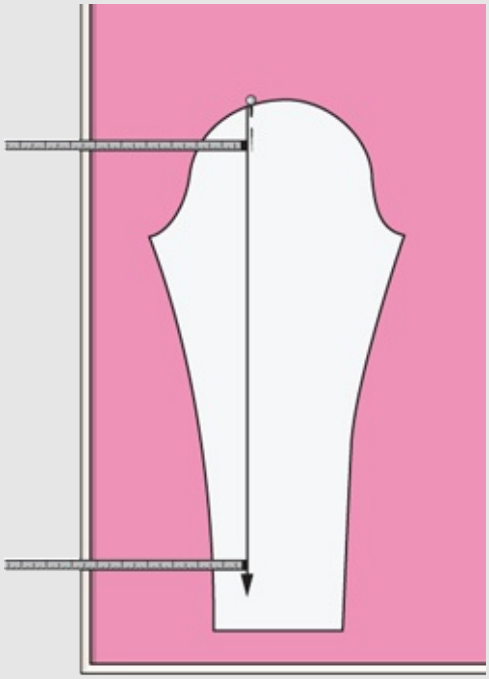


Figure 1

Direction of Nap

All fabrics with a pile surface, such as velvet, terry velours, corduroy, terry cloth, fleece, and loden, have directional nap. You can feel the nap when you run your hand over these fabrics parallel to the selvedge. The pile is easily smoothed with the nap and it bristles against the nap (Figure 2).

Figure 2

When you sew with fabrics with a pile, you must orient all of the garment's pattern pieces in the same direction on the fabric. For example, face all of the lower edges of the pieces in the same direction. The recommended direction of the nap is marked by arrows on the cutting layouts.

Direction of Pattern

Many fabrics have patterns going in one direction. This is easy to see in Figure 3—all of the flower stems point downward. When you're sewing with such a fabric, you must lay all of the garment's pattern pieces on the fabric so that the lower edges lie in the same direction.

Figure 3

When you sew with checks and plaids, as well as fabrics with horizontal stripes or patterns, it's important to match the patterns at the vertical and horizontal seams (Figure 4). To achieve this, lay the pattern pieces out on the fabric so that the lower edges lie on the same stripe of the pattern.

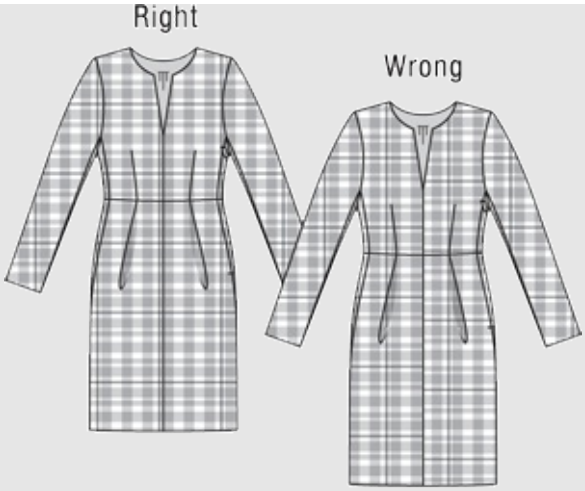


Figure 4

Quantity of Fabric

The quantities of fabric and the cutting layouts are always based on the original fabric used in the sample garment. The amount of fabric required can change if you work with fabrics that have a different width or larger patterns, checks, or stripes than the original. Using a one-directional nap or print can also alter the quantity of fabric needed. Take the time to recalculate how much fabric your garment requires before you buy the fabric.

Step 4: Follow the instructions

Step-by-step sewing instructions are included for all of the projects in this book. The construction of the garment is broken down into individual steps that you'll follow in sequence. If you have any difficulties understanding the step as described, try breaking down the sentence into smaller bits and reading just a few words at a time.

You may notice that some designs have more detailed instructions than others. If you're a beginner or need a little refresher on sewing techniques, look for these designs.

Once you're comfortable working with a BurdaStyle pattern, you'll be well on your way to creating a new wardrobe!

BurdaStyle Pattern Skill Levels

BurdaStyle patterns assume some familiarity with sewing basics. If you're a beginning sewist, you may want to choose patterns designated ● and ●◐.

● Quick and easy

●◐ Easy to sew, with simple features

●● Easy to sew, but more time-consuming

●●◐ Intermediate level

●●● More challenging, for advanced learners

●●●◐ More advanced, with special features

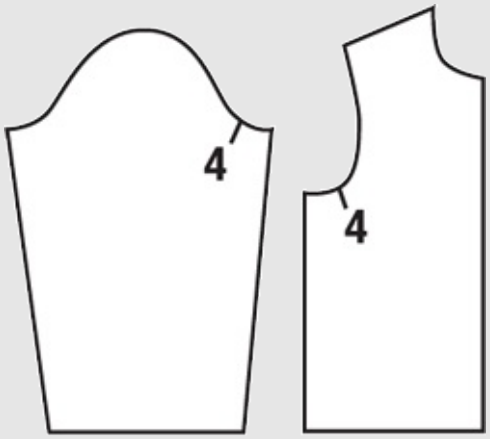
Additional Tips

- The fabric requirements given are based on the fabric used in our original designs. These amounts will change if you use fabric of a different width.
- Fabrics may shrink when laundered for the first time, especially those made of cotton, linen, and rayon. To avoid shrinkage of the finished garment, fabric should be pretreated (washed and dried before cutting out the fabric pieces). Use the temperature settings you plan to use for the finished garment. If you want to test the amount of shrinkage of your fabric, cut a square of the fabric and measure it exactly. Finish the edges, wash it, and compare the fabric size after washing with the original size.
- The cutting layouts included with the sewing instructions show our recommended way to place the pattern pieces. When cutting from a double fabric layer, always fold the fabric with the right sides together, aligning the opposing selvedges if indicated on the cutting layout. When cutting from a single layer of fabric, the right side of the fabric should face up, unless otherwise noted in the cutting instructions.
- Pattern pieces shown in the cutting layout with broken outlines should be pinned to the fabric with the printed side facing down.
- Pattern pieces shown in the cutting layout with shading require interfacing. Shaded areas of a larger pattern piece require interfacing only for that particular portion.
- Transfer the pattern piece marking lines to the wrong side of the fabric with tailor’s chalk. Hand-baste along placement lines (e.g., for pockets or center front) to make them visible on the right side of the fabric.

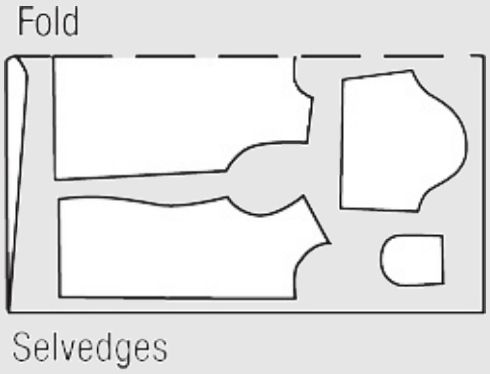
BurdaStyle Symbols

Here’s a handy key to the symbols used in the patterns.

Armhole markings: These small lines at the edges of the sleeve and front armhole pieces must meet when the sleeve is set in.

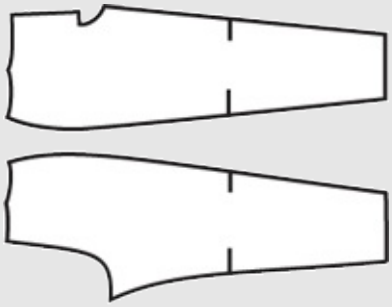


Broken line: On the cutting layout, the broken line indicates the folded edge of a double layer of fabric.

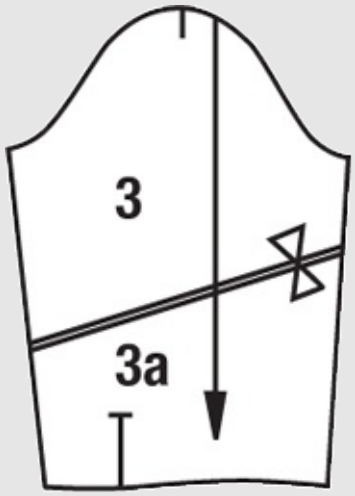


Foldline: In the pattern overview box, this broken line means that the pattern edge must be placed on a fold and that side is not cut.

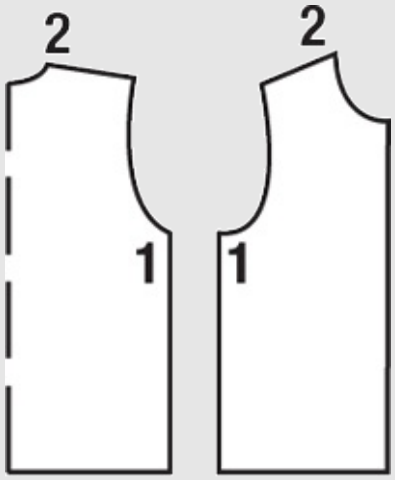
Seam marks: Shown on long seams, these small lines perpendicular to the cutting line indicate edges to be matched. Match the seam marks to one another.



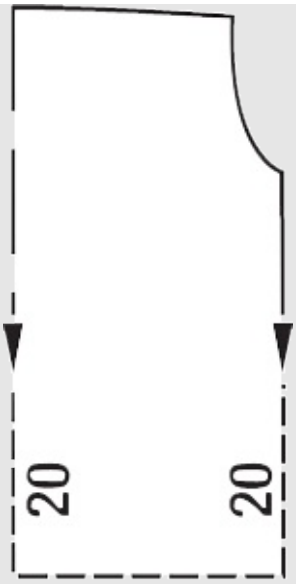
Joining line: Large pattern pieces that cannot fit on the pattern insert sheet will be in two pieces. These pieces must be taped together after they have been traced onto pattern paper. A double line indicates the joining line and small triangles indicate match points.



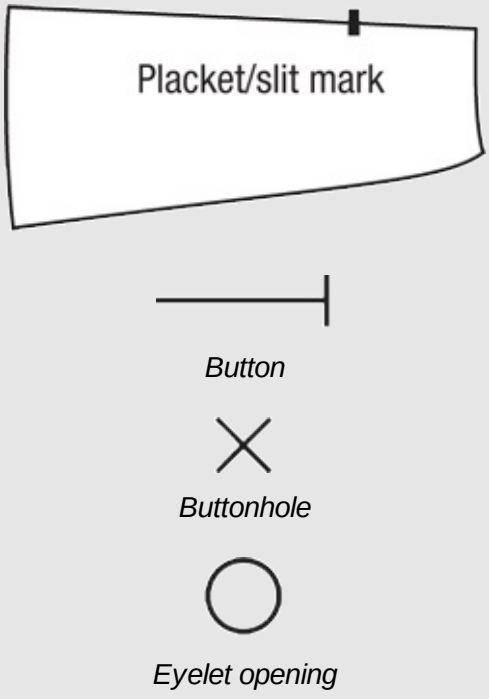
Seam numbers: Adjacent pattern pieces that must be sewn together are indicated with the same seam numbers. Match pieces with the same numbers.



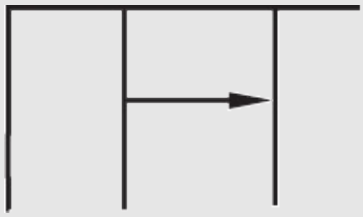
Lengthening: If a pattern piece is too long to fit on the pattern insert sheet, you will need to lengthen it when you trace the pattern piece onto pattern paper. Lengthen the pattern from the point of the arrow by the amount indicated at the arrow.



Placket/slit mark: This small, thick line that intersects the cutting line indicates the beginning or end of a slit or placket.



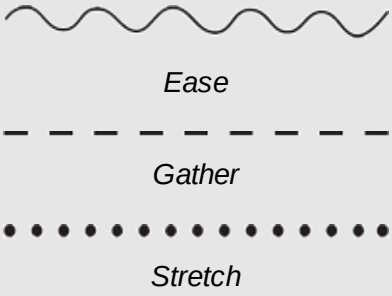
Pleat symbol: Fold the pleat in the direction of the arrow.



Presser foot: A presser foot image indicates seam and topstitching lines.

Scissors: Scissors indicate slash lines, such as welt pocket openings.

The following symbols will be found only on the pattern piece flats in the pattern overview box. On the pattern insert sheet, the words are written out.



Sewing Know-How

This section covers some of the techniques used in BurdaStyle patterns. Use it to brush up on your skills and make your finished garments as professional looking as possible.

Darts

Darts are used to give three-dimensional shape to an otherwise flat part of a garment, typically in the bust or at the shoulders or hips. There are several types of darts: single point, curved, and double point. A single-point dart creates fullness in one area, usually the bust or shoulder. A curved dart is a variation of a single-point dart, gently curved instead of straight, nipping in the waistline while also rounding out the bust. A double-point dart places fullness in both the shoulders and hips. It is often used in either the front, back, or both sections of a dress.

To stitch a dart, fold the fabric right sides together along the center of the two marked dart lines. Poke pins through to ensure that the lines are directly on top of each other.

Begin stitching at the wide portion of the dart—the open end for single and curved darts and the middle for a double-pointed dart. Stitch toward the point and gently taper the stitching off the fabric at the point (Figure 1). Do not backstitch at the point—simply leave the threads long enough to tie for security.

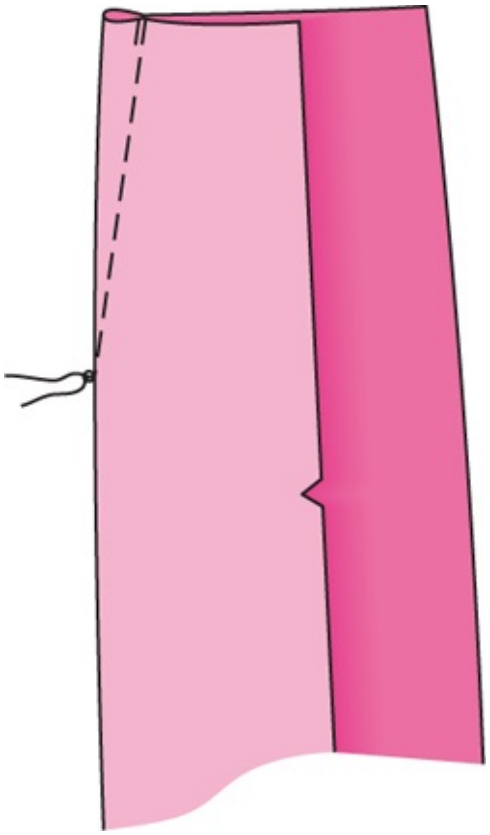


Figure 1

Depending on the garment construction, the dart folds can be pressed up or down or trimmed and pressed open. When a dart is pressed open, the point fold is usually pressed flat (Figure 2).

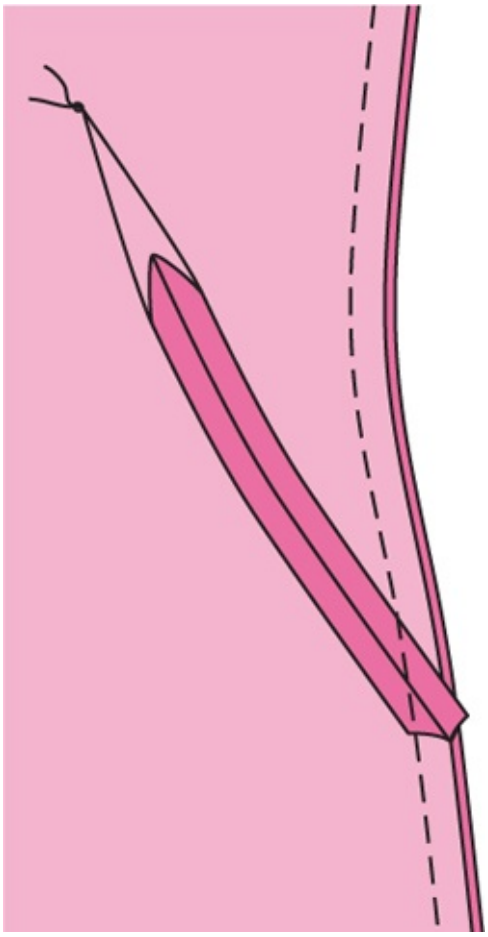


Figure 2

Ease Pleat

Coat and jacket linings require some ease to allow for movement, and the simplest way to provide that is by adding an ease pleat at the center back of the lining. Before cutting your fabric, add ¾" (2 cm) to the center back seam or center back fold of the pattern, so you're actually adding a total of 1½" (3.8 cm) of extra fabric for ease (Figure 3).

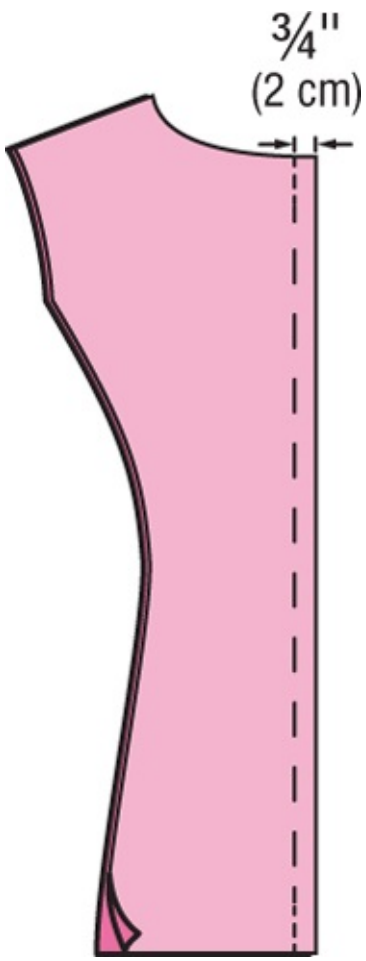


Figure 3

With right sides together, ¾" (2 cm) away from the center back edge, stitch at the top and bottom of the back piece parallel to the center back edge for 2" (5 cm). Backstitch at the seam ends. Between those permanent stitching lines, baste along the ¾" (2 cm) line. Press the ease pleat to one side and baste across the top and bottom to hold the pleat in place. Once the lining is sewn into the garment, remove the basting to open the ease pleat.

Facings

Facings are used to finish the edges of necklines, armholes, and other shaped edges. A facing is shaped exactly like the opening edge, and it's applied to the right side of the garment (Figure 4). Once the stitching is complete, the seam allowances are trimmed, clipped (if the edge is curved), and the facing turned and pressed to the inside, creating a finished edge. The raw edges are sandwiched between the layers of the facing and the garment. On some dresses, a collar may be inserted between the neckline facing and the dress neckline. Interfacing is often applied to facing pieces to help the garment opening hold its shape.

Figure 4

Gathering

Gathering pulls up extra fullness in one piece of fabric to match an edge or area on a second piece of fabric that might otherwise be flat. Common places you'll use gathering are at the top of a sleeve to ease in fullness, at a waistline or bustline to pull in fullness needed elsewhere for fit, and in design areas where fullness is controlled, such as for a cuff or yoke. The goal of gathering is to evenly distribute fullness without creating puckers or pleats.

To add gathers to a piece of fabric, use the longest stitch length on your machine and sew two rows of stitching, both within the seam allowance, usually about ¼" (6 mm) apart (Figure 5). Leave thread ends long, then simultaneously pull the two bobbin threads to gather the fabric. When the appropriate length is reached, tie off the threads to hold the area stable.

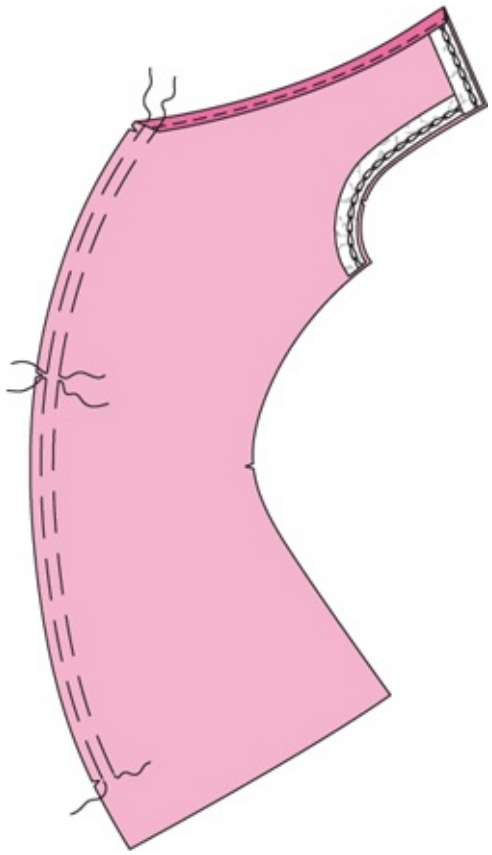


Figure 5

Interfacing

Most BurdaStyle garments use fusible interfacing, and the pieces that require interfacing are indicated on the cutting layout by gray shading. If the fabric is not compatible with fusible interfacing, substitute sew-in interfacing. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all fusible interfacings, as some require moisture for proper fusing. Always test interfacing on a scrap of your garment fabric to be sure it's compatible and

adds the needed body and stability. Apply the interfacing to the wrong side of the corresponding garment pieces before beginning construction.

Invisible Zipper

Many BurdaStyle designs feature an invisible zipper—they're easy to install and no topstitching shows on the finished application, making for a clean, smooth seam. These special zippers come in various lengths. The zipper should be at least ¾" (2 cm) longer than the marked opening. It is sewn in place before the seam below the opening is sewn. You will need a special invisible zipper foot for installation. Be sure to get the version that fits your machine model.

Open the zipper and push the coil back with your thumbnail to reveal the seam line marking between the zipper tape and the coil. Place the open zipper, right-side down, on the fabric right side of one opening edge, and align the invisible zipper seam line marking with the fabric seam line. (The zipper tape will be on the same side as the fabric edge.) Pin the zipper tape in place. The bottom end of the zipper will extend past the marked opening end. Place the invisible zipper foot over the zipper so the coil is in one of the channels under the foot and the needle is aligned with the seam line. Stitch the zipper in place from the top down (Figure 6). Close the zipper.

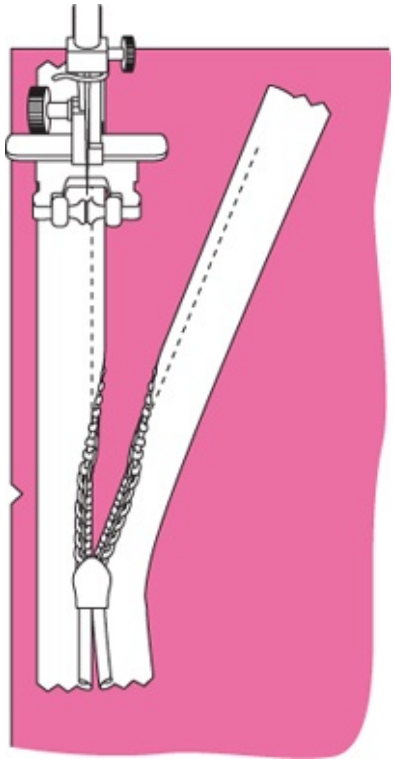


Figure 6

Place the other zipper tape, right-side down, on the fabric right side of the opposite opening edge. Align the invisible zipper seam line marking with the fabric seam line and pin the zipper tape in place. Open the zipper again. Place the invisible zipper foot over the zipper so the coil is in one of the channels and the

needle is aligned with the new seam line. Sew the zipper in place from the top down (Figure 7). Close the zipper.

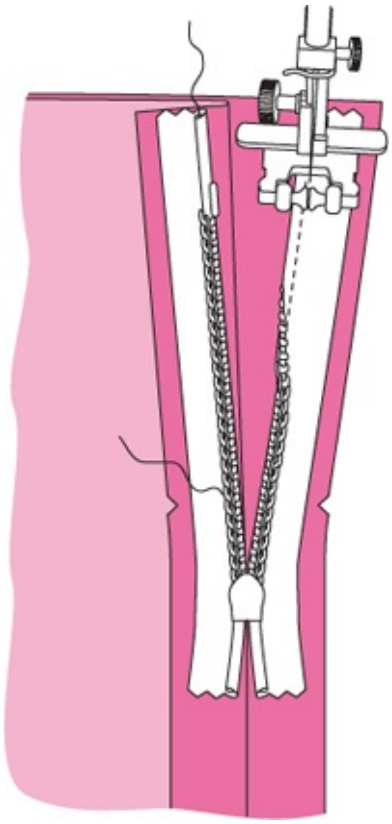


Figure 7

Stitch the seam below the zipper, from the bottom to the top. As you approach the bottom of the zipper, hold the loose lower end of the zipper out of the way. Stitch as close as possible to the last stitches of the zipper seams. The zipper tail remains loose inside the garment, or you can trim it and bind the ends if desired.

Markings

There are several ways to transfer markings from the pattern to the fabric. The easiest is to use tailor's chalk. Poke a straight pin through the fabric at the mark (Figure 8), separate the layers, and chalk a dot or small line at the needed markings (Figure 9). For darts, connect the dots and draw a line for easier stitching. Mark seam and hem allowances if desired.

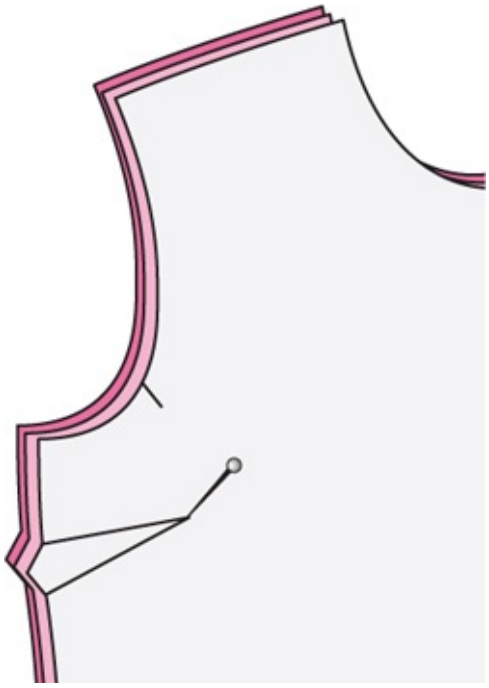


Figure 8

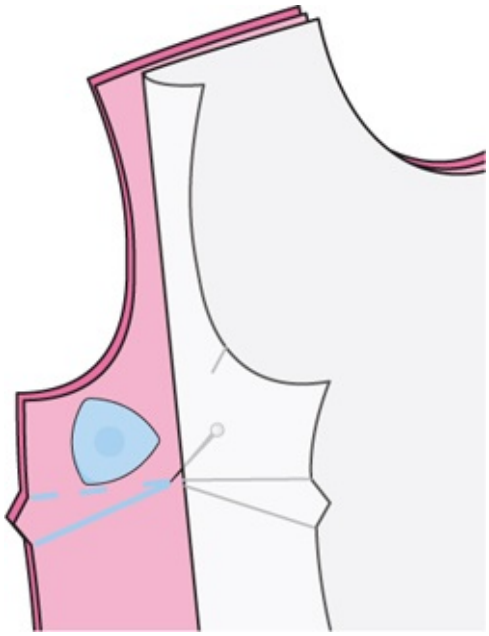


Figure 9

On sheer fabrics, or where a more durable marking is needed, use thread to trace the lines onto the fabric layers (Figure 10). Remove the thread when the markings are no longer needed. This method is ideal for indicating fold lines and hemlines, providing an easy line to follow for pressing.

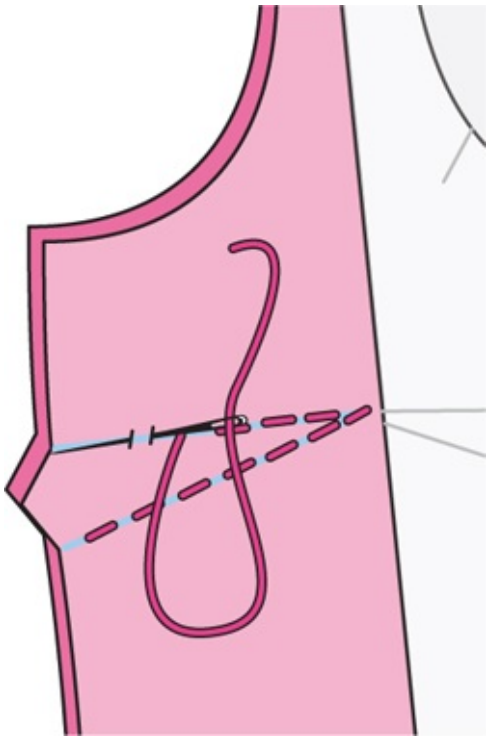


Figure 10

Notions

Each pattern indicates notions specific to that design. In addition, you will require fabric scissors, pins, tailor's chalk, matching threads, and other sewing essentials, plus tools for tracing pattern pieces, including paper scissors, rulers, tape, and pattern paper.

Seam Finishing

It's always a good idea to finish seam raw edges on woven fabrics. Knits do not usually require finishing, although it's a nice touch if you want to take the extra step.

In the pattern instructions, you'll see the phrase "neaten seams" or "neaten edges" to indicate that some action is needed. Seam allowances, facing edges, and hems should be finished unless otherwise indicated. Use a zigzag or overcast stitch for finishing or serge the raw edges. On lightweight fabrics, you can also turn the raw edge under ¼" (6 mm) to finish. Lined garments generally do not require seam finishing because the seams will be encased by the lining.

Set-In Sleeves

Set-in sleeves are designed to fit over the fullness of the upper arm while fitting into the garment armhole. The cap, or upper portion of the sleeve, is actually longer than the armhole to which it's being sewn. The set-in sleeve must be eased into the armhole to accommodate the difference in length and to maintain a smooth, pucker-free appearance.

Both the sleeve and armhole pattern pieces will have markings that need to be matched with those on the garment front, back, or shoulder (sometimes on all three pieces). When the sleeve doesn't fit the armhole with just a gentle stretch as you sew, you must ease the sleeve into the armhole. Easing is accomplished using one or more lines of basting sewn on, or just inside, the sleeve cap seam line. One end of the basting threads is pulled to gently ease in the sleeve fullness along the sleeve stitching line.

Always sew with the sleeve side up when inserting a sleeve and avoid sewing in any puckers or gathers, unless the style calls for them. Once the sleeve is set into the armhole, the pattern instructions may direct you to trim the seam allowances along a portion of the seam (usually in the lower armhole) or to press seam allowances in a single direction (usually into the upper sleeve cap).

Sewing with Jersey

These tips will boost your confidence when sewing with this versatile fabric.

Many of the dresses featured in this book are made from jersey, a knit fabric that's comfortable to wear and easy to sew.

Jersey has various personae—from very fluid and lightweight to more substantial, depending on the knit characteristics and the fiber content. Inherently, all jerseys have some stretch to them. Some are blended with spandex for additional stretch. Look for jerseys made from silk, wool, rayon, and cotton.

Stretch Stitch

When sewing with jersey and other stretch fabrics, sew seams with a special stretch stitch or a narrow zigzag setting on your sewing machine to allow the fabric to stretch without popping stitches. Be sure to use a ballpoint or stretch needle to avoid damaging the knit fibers. A serger is ideal for sewing seams in jersey, as it not only sews the seam, but it finishes the edge in one pass (see Simplifying the Serger, to learn more about this specialty machine).

Finishing

Because jersey is a knit fabric, seam finishing is optional. The fabric doesn't ravel, so any finishing is simply for neatening the inside of the garment.

Make sure to stitch hem allowances with a stretch twin machine needle to keep them as elastic as the fabric you're sewing.

Stay Tape

Available in both bias and straight-grain versions as well as fusible and nonfusible varieties, stay tape is a narrow strip used to help stabilize a garment area prone to stretching. It's used on knit fabrics, fabric pattern pieces cut on the bias, and curves. It's applied to armholes, necklines, shoulders, and other areas prone to distortion during construction. Apply stay tape to the fabric pattern pieces before you begin sewing the garment, just as you do interfacing.

Twin-Needle Stitching

A twin needle creates parallel stitching lines on the right side of the garment, such as on the hem of a dress. The stitching is connected on the underside by a single, zigzagging bobbin thread (Figure 11). Twin needles are frequently used on knits for hemming and securing other turned-under edges like necklines. The stitching maintains the flexibility and recovery of the fabric because of the zigzag on the underside, while showcasing two rows of evenly spaced straight stitching on the right side.

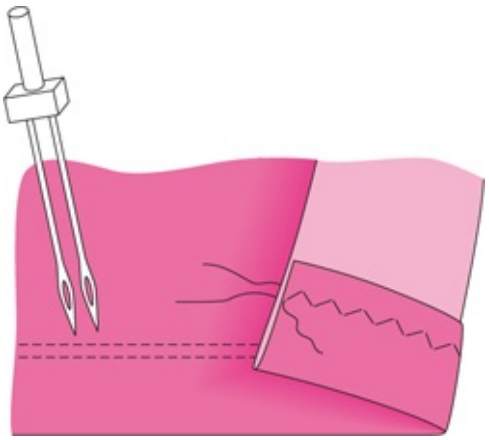


Figure 11

Most sewing machines can sew with a twin needle—two needles inserted into the needle bar on a single shank. Twin needles come in various needle types, including stretch for jersey, and a range of sizes, depending on the fabric weight and construction.The needles are available in various width spacings, from 1.6 mm to 9 mm. Check your machine owner's manual to learn more about using twin needles.

Understitching

Understitching involves edgestitching the seam allowance to the garment underside so that the lining or facing remains on the inside and doesn't roll out. To understitch, press the seam allowances toward the lining or facing, then trim and grade the seam allowances and clip curves if needed. From the fabric right side, edgestitch on the lining or facing side, sewing through all seam allowances to hold them in place (Figure 12). Understitching is not visible on the outside of the garment and is most commonly found along necklines and armholes.

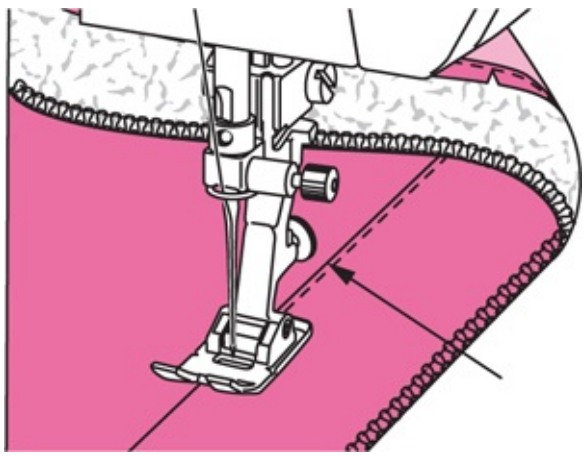


Figure 12

Zigzagged Hem

An easy finish for many projects, this simple hem finish is common in many BurdaStyle patterns.

To sew a zigzagged hem, turn the hem allowance up to the wrong side. Sew with a narrow zigzag stitch close to the fold (Figure 13).

Trim the turned-up fabric close to the stitching on the wrong side of the garment (Figure 14).

Figure 13

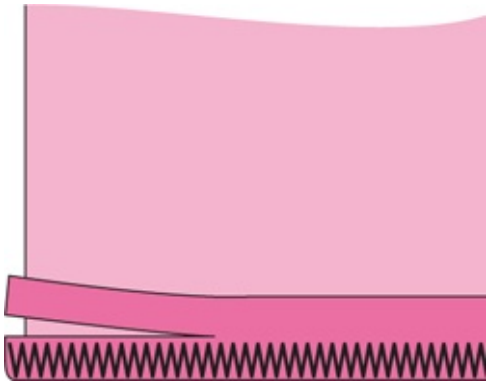


Figure 14

Making Patterns Larger or Smaller

To change the size of a pattern, all you need are a sharp pencil and a drafting triangle.

Even though we offer several sizes for each of our patterns, it's still possible that your favorite design is only available on the pattern sheet in one size too large or one size too small. But that doesn't mean you have to skip a pattern!

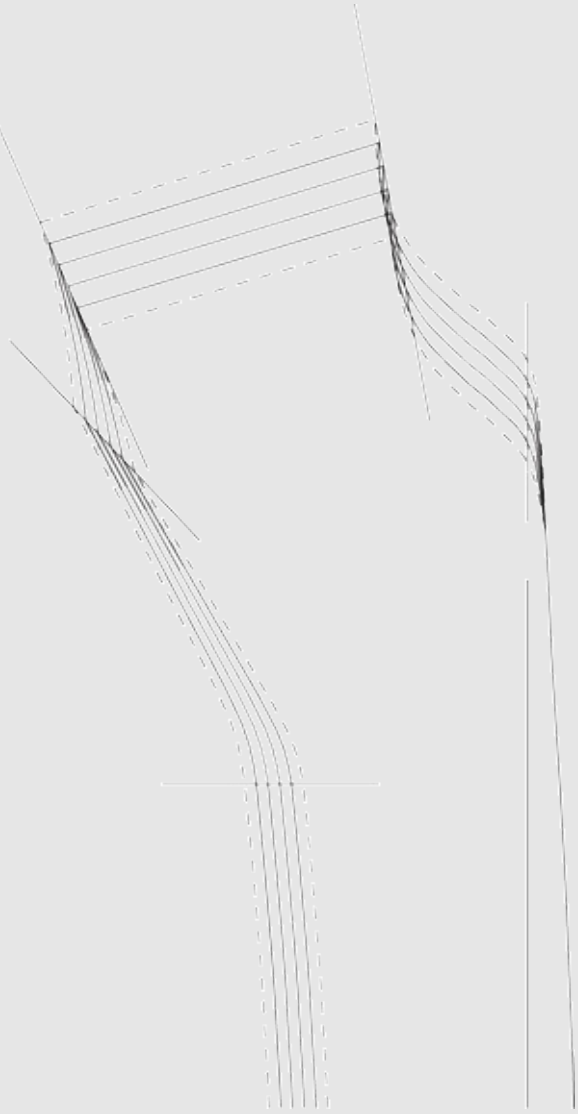
Size Lines

On our multisized patterns, the lines for the different sizes are shown next to one another. The distances between the lines correspond to the differences in width or length between the various sizes. To draw a pattern one size larger or one size smaller, just add a new

size line to all pattern pieces, spaced the same distance apart as for the given sizes. Do not “eyeball” this line! A ruler, or preferably a drafting triangle, is more exact.

To measure the distances, first draw several auxiliary lines, exactly at right angles to the given size lines.

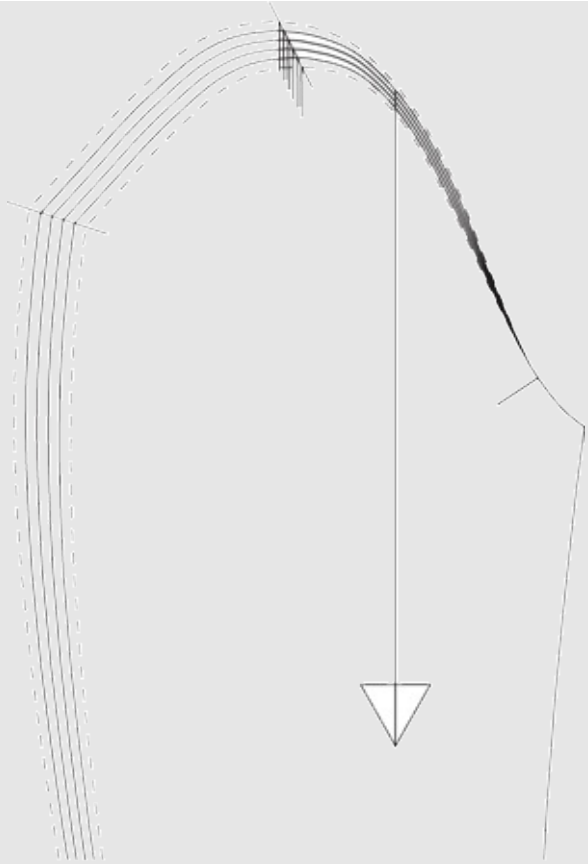
In addition, connect the corners of the given size lines—for example at the corner formed by the neck edge and shoulder seam or by the armhole edge and shoulder seam. These connecting lines must run exactly through the corner points of the new size lines.



Connect the corners of the individual sizes, and then draw the new size line.

Seam Marks

Seam marks, such as the shoulder mark on the sleeve cap, which do not lie exactly one above the other or next to the other on the different size lines, must also be connected by an auxiliary line. At the point where this auxiliary line crosses your new size line, you can then mark the seam mark for your new size.



On the sleeve, connect the shoulder marks with a line, and then draw the new shoulder mark.

Note: According to the size chart, the increments between widths given for sizes 36 and 46 measure 1⅝" (4 cm).

You should not change the size of a pattern by more than two sizes. With larger size changes, a good fit can no longer be guaranteed.

TIP: Most of us aren't the same size on the top and bottom. Because BurdaStyle patterns offer multiple sizes on a single pattern, you can make the patterns fit *you*. Simply trace the line for the size needed in different areas and taper the lines from one to the other for a smooth transition in the areas where you used a larger or smaller size.

Chapter 1

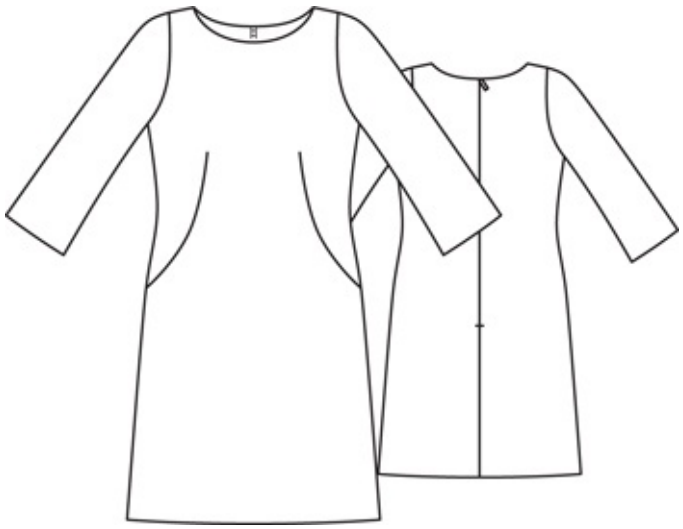
Vintage

As every fashionista knows, classic dresses never go out of style. Fitted bodices, wasp waists, and swingy skirts flatter every woman in any era. These retro patterns draw from the best fashion trends of the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. We've updated vintage BurdaStyle patterns for a charmingly retro look—your dress may evoke days past, but you'll be every inch the confident, modern woman.

In this chapter, there's a dress for every occasion. Glam it up for a night on the town, get flirty on a date, or go simple with a professional dress for the office. Discover your own way to make something old new again.

Vintage Chic Sheath

This sheath conjures vintage ’60s charm, simple and chic with a straight, flattering cut, soft, tweedy fabric, and the decade’s trademark ¾–length sleeves. You’ll feel equally well dressed in the office or at the park, dressed up with heels or dressed down in flats, in this all-occasion wool jersey dress. Vintage Chic is easy to sew and the perfect first dress for a beginner sewist.



Skill Level: ●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 23" (58.5 cm)

Finished sleeve length: 20" (51 cm)

Materials

Wool jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 1⅞ yd (1.7 m)

Fusible knit tricot interfacing

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Red pattern line

Sheet A, pattern pieces 1, 1a, 2a, and 7

Sheet B, pattern pieces 2, 3, 5, and 6

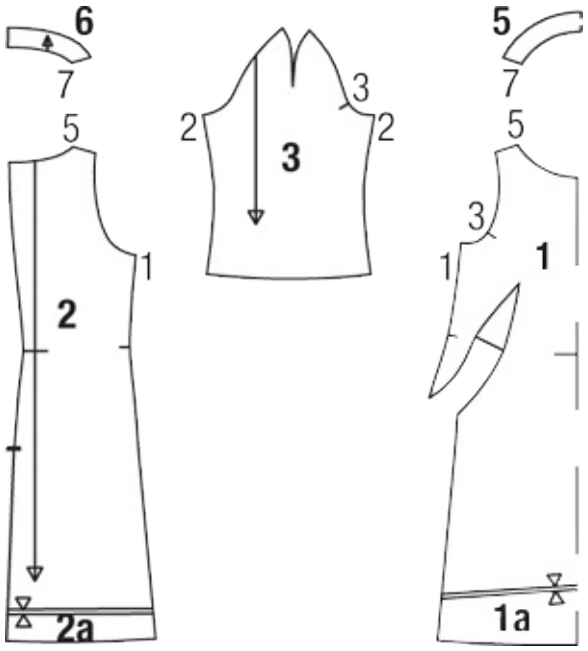
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pattern pieces 1 to 3, 5, and 6 from the pattern sheet. Transfer all marked lines and pattern markings, including dart lines and seam numbers.

Mark the opening for the zipper.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 1 and 1a and 2 and 2a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Fold the dress fabric in half lengthwise, right sides together, and lay the pattern pieces out on the fabric as shown in the cutting layout. Make sure the printed side of piece 5 is facing down. Pin them in place.

Cut from wool jersey:
Piece 1, front–1 on the fold
Piece 2, back–2
Piece 3, sleeve–2
Piece 5, front facing–1 on the fold
Piece 6, back facing–1

Cut from interfacing:
Piece 5, front facing–1 on the fold
Piece 6, back facing–1

Unfold both of the facing pieces as well as the front and back pieces. Fuse the front facing interfacing to the front facing cut from jersey (Figure 1). Repeat with the back facing pieces.

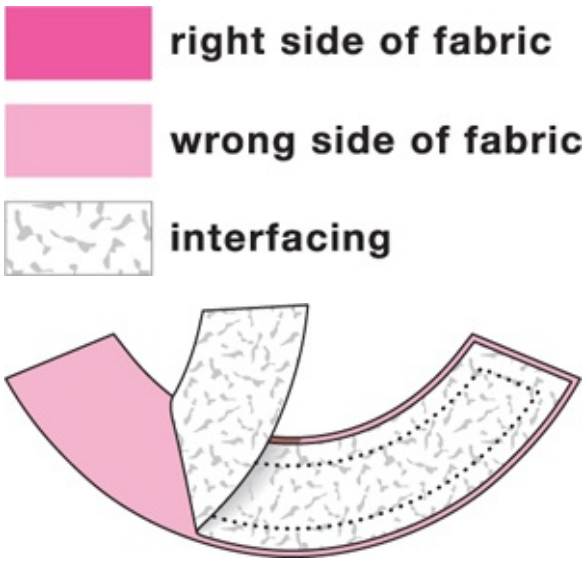


Figure 1

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the armhole edges, spanning the seam line (Figure 2).

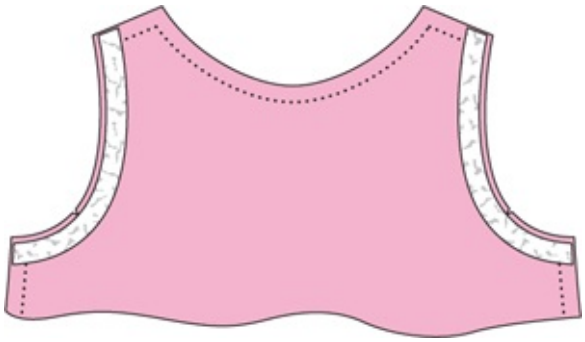
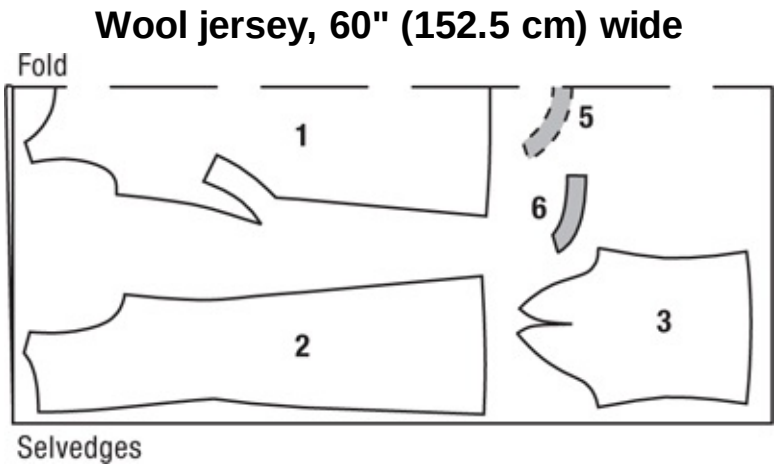


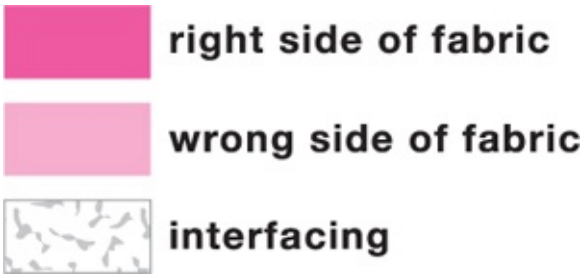
Figure 2

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place piece shown with a broken outline printed side down.



Construction



Sew Darts

1. Fold each front piece along the center of the dart, right sides together. Pin the dart lines together. Stitch, starting at the lower edge. Secure the beginning of the lower seam with backstitching, but do not backstitch at the point of the dart. Instead, knot the threads (Figure 3). Cut the dart allowances to ⅝" (1.5 cm) wide. Press the seam allowances open, and then press the point of the dart flat (Figure 4).

Figure 3

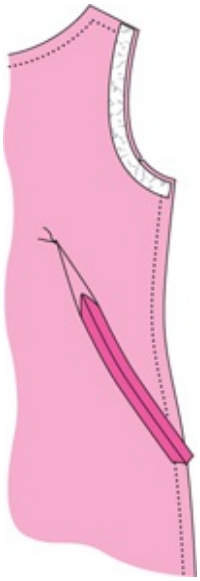


Figure 4

Insert Invisible Zipper

2. Lay the right half of the open zipper, right side down, on the right back piece 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the edge of the fabric. Make sure the teeth begin at the marked seam line of the neck edge. Using an invisible zipper foot and with the needle to the left of the teeth, stitch the zipper in place (Figure 5).

Figure 5

3. Close the zipper. Lay the left tape of the zipper on the opening edge of the left back piece and pin in place at the top (Figure 6).

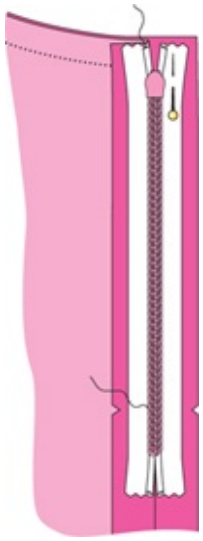


Figure 6

Open the zipper again and, with the needle to the right of the zipper teeth, stitch the zipper in place (Figure 7).

Figure 7

Sew Center back and Side Seams

4. Lay the back pieces with right sides together. Pin the center back seam edges together, from the bottom to close to the lower end of the zipper. Turn the loose zipper end outward and make sure the seam lines meet. Stitch the center seam (Figure 8). Press the seam allowances open and neaten the edges with zigzag stitching.

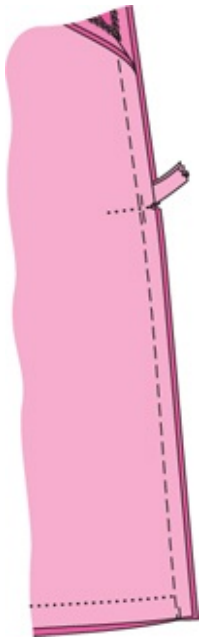


Figure 8

5. Lay the front piece on the dress back, right sides together. Pin the side seams, then stitch (Figure 9). Secure the seams by backstitching at the beginning and end of each line of stitching. Press the seam allowances open and neaten the edges with zigzag stitching.

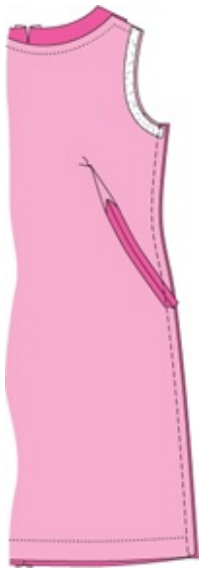


Figure 9

Stitch Sleeve Seams

6. Fold each sleeve piece lengthwise, right sides together. Pin, then stitch the sleeve seam, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure (Figure 10). Press the seam allowances open and neaten the edges with zigzag stitching.

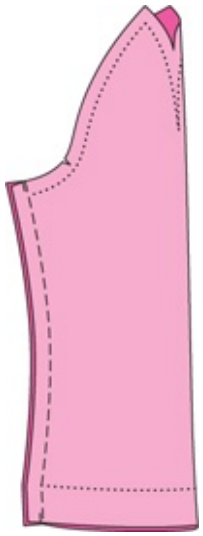


Figure 10

Stitch Sleeves in Place

7. Place the sleeves inside the armholes, right sides together, and pin. Make sure the sleeve seams and the side seams meet; seam mark 3 on the sleeve must match seam mark 3 on the front. Stitch the sleeves to the armholes (Figure 11).

Figure 11

Neaten the edges of the seam allowances together and press toward the sleeves, from the top to the beginning of the underarm curve.

Stitch Shoulder Seams

8. Lay the dress front on the dress back, right sides together, folding the sleeves lengthwise. Pin the shoulder seams, then pin the dart lines on the shoulder together. The ends of the sleeve attachment seams must meet. Stitch the shoulder seams, starting at the neck edge on each side (Figure 12). Knot the threads at the point of each dart. Neaten the seam allowances with zigzag stitching. Press the seams open, pressing the points of the darts flat.

Figure 12

9. With right sides together, pin and stitch together the shoulder seams of the front facing and back facing pieces (Figure 13). Press the seam allowances open. Neaten the inner edge of the facing with zigzag stitching, if desired.

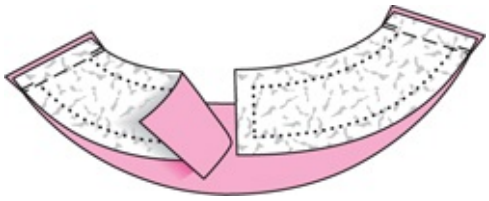


Figure 13

Sew Neck Facing

10. Pin the facing to the neck edge, right sides together (Figure 14). Turn the facing edges under 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the zipper. Fold the zipper, along with the opening seam allowances, to the outside and pin in place (Figure 15).

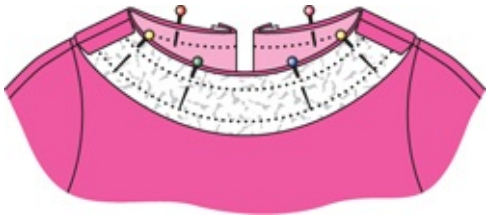


Figure 14

Figure 15

11. Stitch the neck edge to the facing (Figure 16). Trim the seam allowances to ¼" (6 mm) wide and clip several times. Turn the opening seam allowances to the inside. Turn the facing up and understitch as close

as possible to the seam (Figure 17).

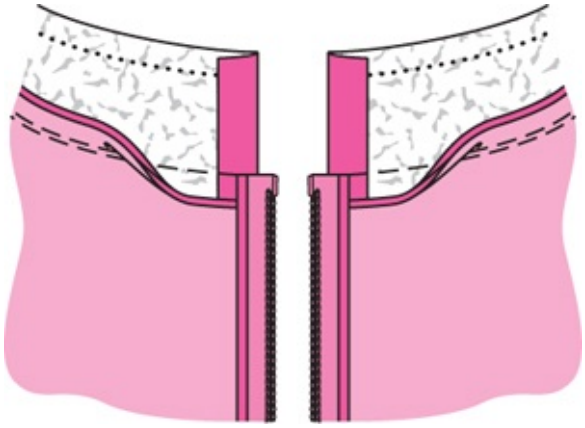


Figure 16

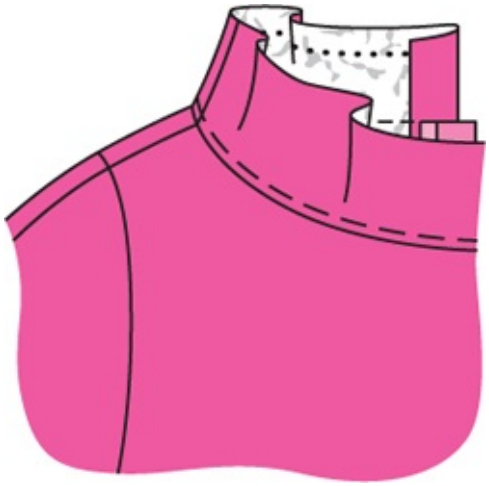


Figure 17

12. To finish the neck edge, turn the facing to the inside and press. Sew the facing to the zipper tapes and to the seam allowances of the shoulder seams (Figure 18).

Figure 18

Finish Hems

13. Neaten the lower edges of the dress and sleeves with zigzag stitching, if desired. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowances to the inside and sew them in place loosely by hand (Figure 19).

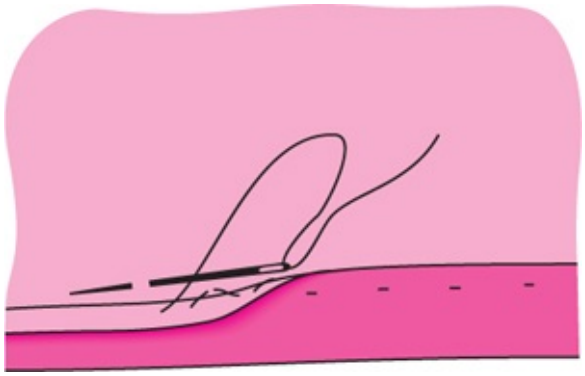


Figure 19

’70s Simple Luxe Lace Dress

This simply cut dress suggests the simple luxe side of the ’70s. Slightly fitted at the waist with cunning cap sleeves, this lace-covered satin dress is as comfortable as it is eye-catching. To achieve the decorative hems on the skirt and the sleeves, look for a lace fabric that has a single scalloped edge.

Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 23" (58.5 cm)

Materials

Lace fabric with one scalloped edge, 36" (91.5 cm) wide: sizes 36, 38: 2⅜ yd (2.2 m); sizes 40, 42, 44: 2½ yd (2.3 m)

Crêpe-back satin lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: sizes 36, 38, 40: 1⅝ yd (1.5 m); sizes 42, 44: 1¾ yd (1.6 m)

Lightweight fusible interfacing

Notions: Water-soluble embroidery stabilizer; 1 new sponge; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Red pattern line

Sheet A, pattern pieces 1, 1a, 2a, and 7

Sheet B, pattern pieces 2, 5, 6, and 8

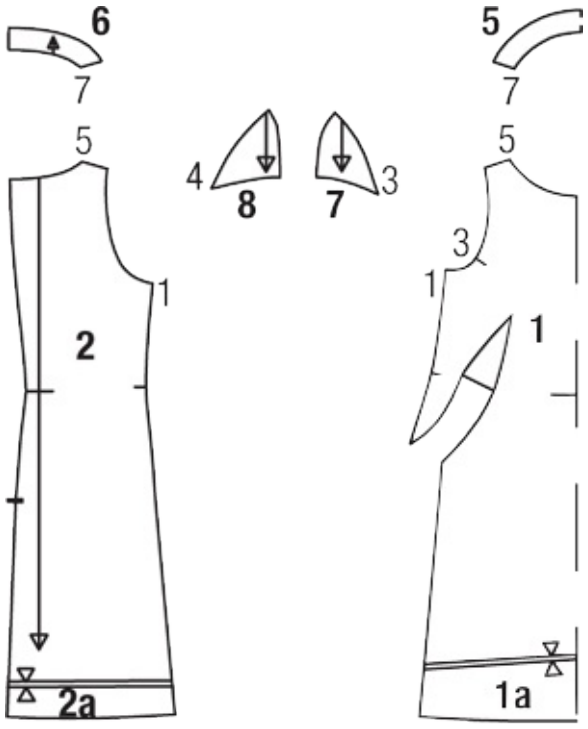
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 1, 1a, 2, 2a, and 5 to 8 from the pattern insert. Transfer all pattern lines and markings, including seam numbers.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 1 and 1a and 2 and 2a at the joining lines.

Cutting

Carefully trim away the scalloped edge of the lace fabric, approximately 2" (5 cm) wide. Lay the scalloped trim aside.

Fold the lace fabric, with right sides together, and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from lace:
Piece 1, front–1 on the fold
Piece 2, back–2
Piece 7, sleeve front–2
Piece 8, sleeve back–2

Fold the lining and pin the pattern pieces in place as shown in the cutting layout.

Cut from crêpe-back satin lining:
Piece 1, front–1 on the fold
Piece 2, back–2
Piece 5, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 6, back neck facing—2
Piece 7, sleeve front–2
Piece 8, sleeve back–2

Mark and cut from lining two armhole finishing strips (piece a) on the bias:
Size 36: 6¾" × 1¼" (17 × 3.2 cm)
Sizes 38, 40: 7" × 1¼" (18 × 3.2 cm)
Size 42: 7½" × 1¼" (19 × 3.2 cm)
Size 44: 8" × 1¼" (20.5 × 3.2 cm)

Cut from interfacing:

Piece 5, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 6, back neck facing–2

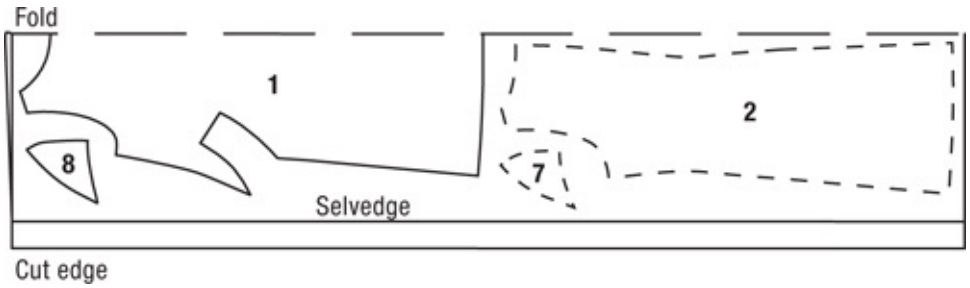
Fuse these interfacing pieces to the corresponding pieces of the lining.

Cutting Layouts

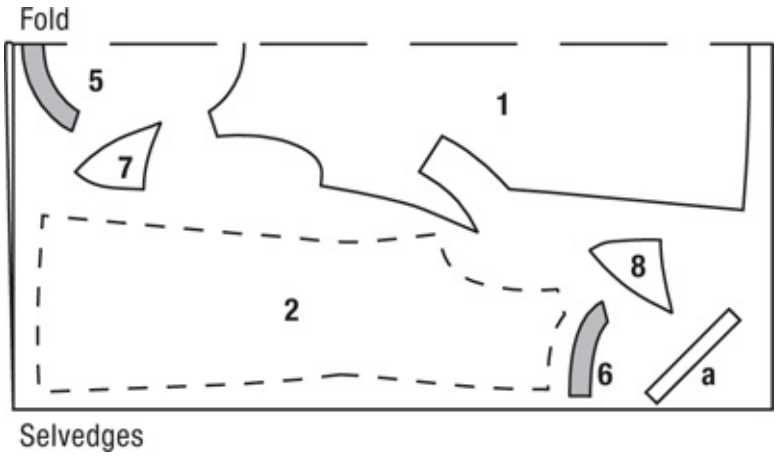
Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down.

The lace fabric for this dress is cut on the lengthwise grain. The scalloped edge of the fabric is trimmed away and appliquéd to the sleeve and hem edges.

Lace fabric, 36" (91.5 cm) wide



Crêpe-back satin lining, 54" (137 cm) wide



Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

Appliqué the Scalloped Edge

1. Baste a strip of 1¼" (3.2 cm) wide water-soluble embroidery stabilizer to the wrong side of the scalloped edge of lace fabric, extending past the hemlines. This will prevent the hem edges on the front and back pieces from stretching.

2. Lay the stabilized scalloped edge on the lower dress edges of the front and back pieces, with the wrong side of the scalloped edge facing the right side of the dress fabric, and pin. The inside edge of the scalloped trim should meet the hemline.

First, stitch along the straight edge of the trim using a medium-length straight stitch. Second, stitch over this line with a narrow, dense zigzag stitch. Trim away the lace fabric under the scalloped edging close to the zigzag stitching (Figure 1). With a clean, damp sponge, dab the water-soluble stabilizer to dissolve it.

Figure 1

Baste Lace Fabric to Lining

3. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowances on the front lining and back lining pieces to the inside. Turn the raw edges under and stitch the hem.

4. Hand-baste the front and back pieces of lace fabric to their corresponding lining pieces, with the wrong sides of lace facing the right sides of crêpe-back satin. Make sure the scalloped edges extend past the lining hems.

Stitch Darts

5. Fold the front pieces along the center of the marked darts, right sides together. Stitch along the dart lines, starting at the outside. Backstitch at the beginning of the seam and knot the threads at the point of the dart. Trim the dart allowances to ⅝" (1.5 cm) wide. Press the darts open, pressing the points flat.

Insert Invisible Zipper

6. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper to the back opening edges. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.)

Stitch Center Back and Side Seams

7. With the right sides of the two back pieces together, stitch the center back seam from the lower edge to the bottom of the zipper. Press the seam allowances open, then handstitch the bottom of the seam allowances in place at the scalloped hemline.

8. Lay the front piece on top of the back pieces, right sides together. Stitch both side seams. Press the seam allowances open, then handstitch the seam allowances in place at the scalloped hemline (Figure 2).

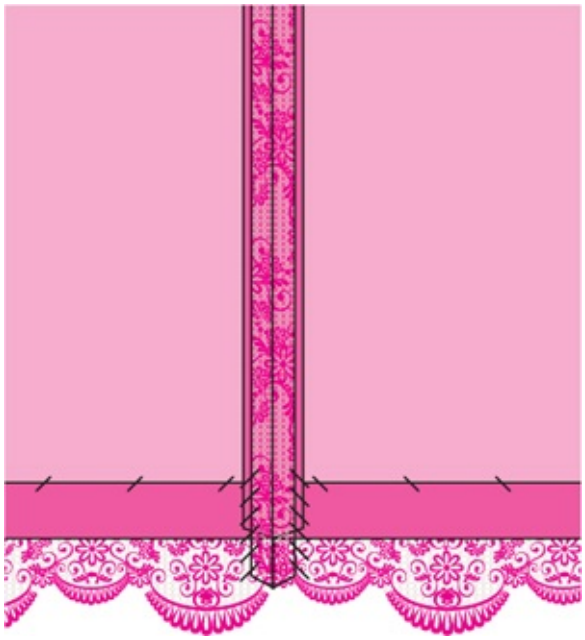


Figure 2

Stitch Sleeve and Shoulder Seams

9. Baste the sleeve fronts and sleeve backs cut from lace fabric to their corresponding lining pieces.

10. Appliqué strips of the scalloped edge to the sleeve hems as in Step 2, but without applying stabilizer. The satin lining will be caught with the stitching, which will prevent the edge from stretching.

11. Stitch the shoulder seams, beginning exactly at the marked neck edge. Press the seam allowances open.

Attach Sleeves

12. With right sides together, pin the sleeves to the armhole edges, making sure to evenly distribute the sleeve fabric. Stitch the sleeves to the armholes above the seam marks. Neaten the sleeve seam allowances with a zigzag stitch and press toward the dress.

Finish Armholes

13. Fold the two bias strips for finishing the armholes in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. Pin the folded strips to the right side of the armhole edges below the sleeves, so that the fold edges of the

strips lie on the garment ¼" (6 mm) past the seam lines. The ends of the strips should lie over the lower edges of the sleeves. Stitch along the marked armhole lines.

Trim the seam allowances, then turn the bias strip to the inside. Topstitch 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the armhole edges.

Stitch Neck Facing

14. Place the front neck facing and right neck facing right sides together. Stitch the shoulder seams, beginning and ending exactly at the marked neck edge. Neaten the facing lower edges.

15. Pin the facing to the neck edge of the dress, right sides together. At the zipper opening, turn the facing back 3⁄16" (5 mm) before the edge of the opening and pin to the upper edge. Turn the seam allowances on the opening edges of the dress to the outside and pin to the neck edge over the facing. Stitch along the neck edge (Figure 3).

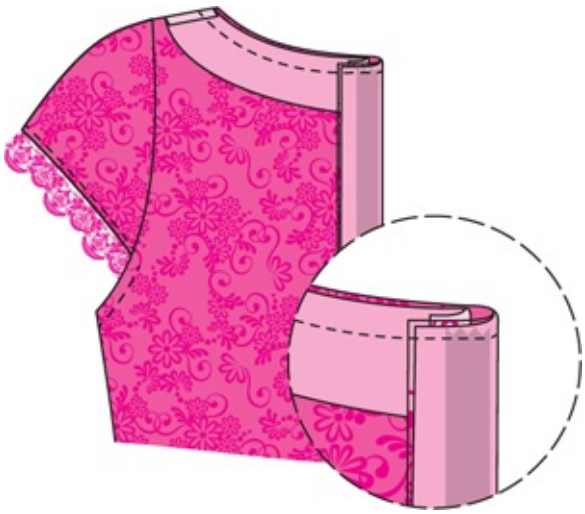
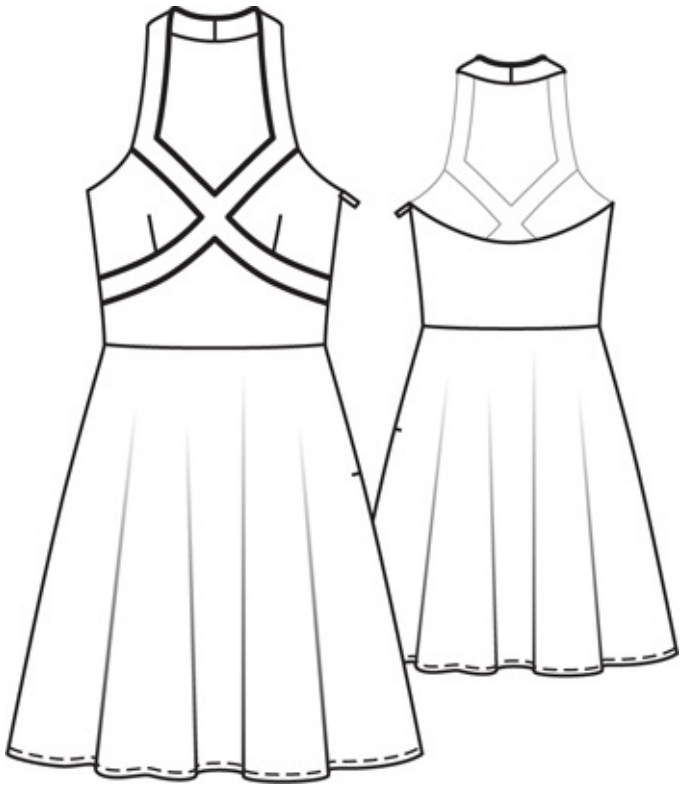


Figure 3

16. Turn the seam allowances of the opening edges to the inside. Turn the facing up and understitch as close as possible to the seam. Turn the facing to the inside and sew to the zipper tapes and to the shoulder seams.

’50s Summer Sundress

A clever cut never goes out of style. This summer dress is as fresh and fashionable today as it was in the 1950s. Crossed front bands with decorative piping become a sophisticated halter neckline, and a swingy circle skirt balances the fitted bodice. This sundress is made from poplin, but you can sew yours from almost any lightweight dress fabric with some body.



With a modern print and knee-length skirt, you can give this classic vintage style a very of-the-moment vibe.

Skill Level: ●●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

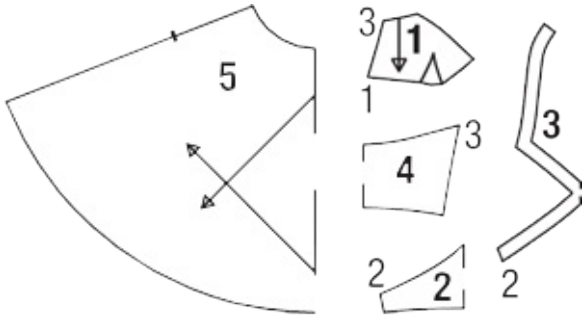
Finished length from the waist: 22½" (57 cm)

Materials

Print poplin, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 34, 36, 38, 40: 2¼ yd (2.1 m); sizes 42, 44: 2⅜ yd (2.2 m)
Plain poplin lining, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 34, 36, 38: ¾ yd (0.7 m); sizes 40, 42, 44: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)
Lightweight fusible interfacing
Piping: sizes 34, 36: 2⅜ yd (2.2 m); sizes 38, 40, 42: 2⅝ yd (2.4 m); size 44: 2¾ yd (2.5 m)
Notions: 1 invisible zipper, 16" (40.5 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line
Sheet G, pattern pieces 1, 3, and 4
Sheet H, pattern pieces 2 and 5
Size 34
Size 36
Size 38
Size 40
Size 42
Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 1 to 5 from the pattern insert. Transfer all pattern lines and markings, including the seam numbers and dart lines.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Lay the print poplin fabric out flat and arrange the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout, right sides facing up. Pin them in place. Cut the right and left pieces as opposites. Some pieces need to be flipped over at the center point after the first half is cut to make a complete piece.

Cut from print poplin:
Piece 1, upper front–2
Piece 2, lower front–1 on the fold
Piece 3, front band with strap–1 on the fold
Piece 4, back–1 on the fold
Piece 5, skirt panel–2 on the fold

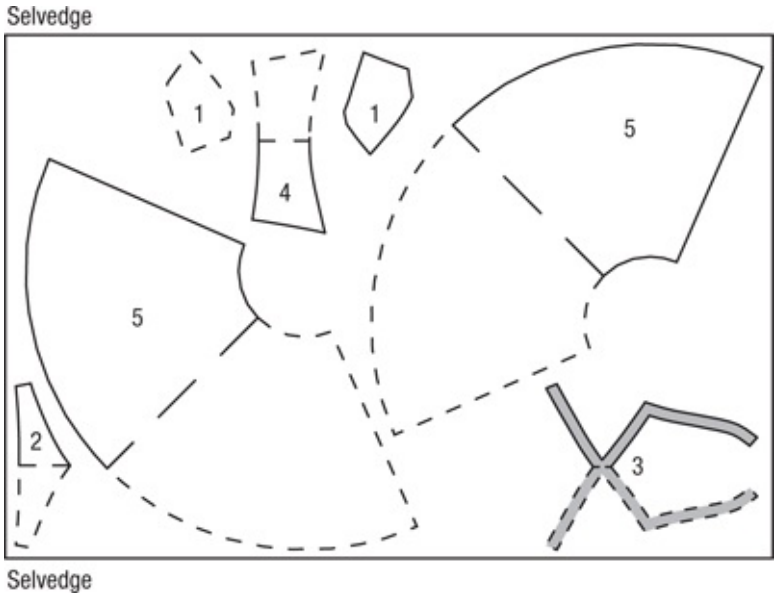
Fold the lining right sides together as shown in the cutting layout and pin the pattern pieces in place right-side up.

Cut from plain poplin lining:
Piece 1, upper front–2
Piece 2, lower front–1 on the fold
Piece 3, front band with strap–1 on the fold
Piece 4, back–1 on the fold

Cut one front band with strap piece from the fusible interfacing, then fuse it on to the corresponding plain poplin piece.

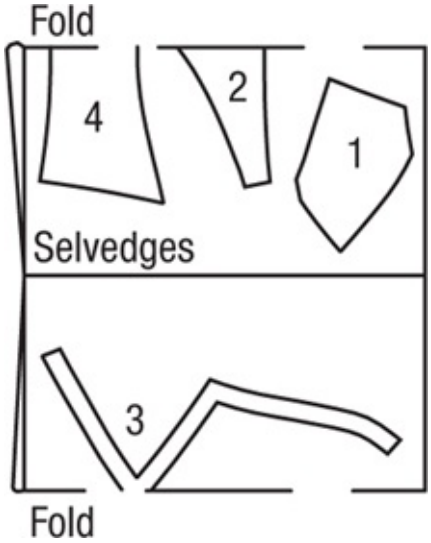
Cutting Layouts

Print poplin, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Cut from a single layer of fabric, right side up. Cut shaded piece from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.

Plain poplin lining, 60" (152.2 cm) wide



Fold fabric as shown, right sides together.

Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

Stitch Bust Darts

1. Fold each of the upper front pieces along the center of the bust darts, right sides together. Pin the dart lines together, then stitch along the dart lines beginning at the lower edge. Secure the beginning of the dart with backstitching, but do not backstitch at the point. Instead, knot the threads. Press the darts toward the center.

Stitch Front Band

2. On the front band with strap piece, pin and stitch the center back neck seam of the strap. Press the seam allowances open.

3. Except for the narrow side edges, press under the seam allowances on all edges of the printed poplin front band and on the inner edges of the integrated straps. Clip the seam allowances into the corners for easier turning (Figure 1).

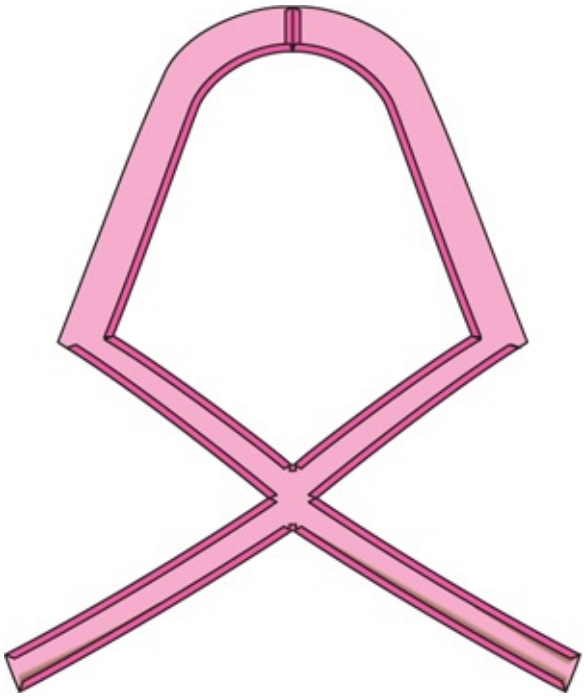


Figure 1

Baste Piping

4. Baste the piping under the pressed edges of the printed poplin front band with strap piece so that the piping cord extends just past the edge.

At the corners, overlap the ends of the piping. At each side band corner (the outer edge of the strap), turn the piping end over the seam allowance at an angle.

Attach Front Band

5. Pin the band in place, from seam mark 1 to the seam allowance of the upper front pieces. Edgestitch the band in place, ending exactly at the marked seam line on the outer strap edge.

6. Pin the band to the lower front piece at seam number 2 and edgestitch in place (Figure 2).

Figure 2

Sew Right Side Seams

7. With right sides together, pin the front dress bodice to the back piece. Stitch the right side seam only. Press the seam allowances open.

8. With right sides together, align and pin the two skirt panels together. Stitch the right side seam only, then press the seam allowances open.

Sew Bodice to Skirt

9. Lay the skirt panels out flat and, with right sides together, pin the bodice to the skirt panels. Match the lower bodice edge with the upper skirt edge and the right side seams. Stitch the skirt to the bodice. Press the seam allowances toward the bodice.

Insert Invisible Zipper

10. Sew the invisible zipper to the left opening edges of the bodice. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.)

Sew Left Side Seam

11. With right sides together and the zipper closed, pin the dress along the left side seam. Stitch the left side seam from the lower edge of the skirt to the zipper.

Stitch Lining

12. Stitch the bust darts in the bodice lining as in Step 1.

13. Stitch the center back neck seam on the front band lining as in Step 2. Press the seam allowances on the neck edge of the front band lining and on the integrated straps to the inside, clipping into the corners for easier turning.

14. Stitch the lining band to the upper front lining pieces and to the lower front lining piece at seam marks 1 and 2. Clip the seam allowances of the band into the corners.

15. End the upper joining seams at the marked seam line on the outer strap edge. Stitch the right side seam of the lining as the mirror image of the dress seam. With right sides facing, pin the lining to the dress along the upper back edge, upper side front edges, and outer strap edge.

16. At the zipper opening, turn the lining back 3⁄16" (5 mm) and pin to the upper edge. At the opening edges, turn the seam allowances of the dress to the outside and pin to the upper edge over the lining. Stitch along the upper edges and the outer strap edge. Trim the seam allowances.

Finish Lining

17. Turn the lining edge under and baste by hand to the front neck edge and the inner strap edge. Topstitch close to the upper bodice edge, strap edges, and front neck edge. Turn the lining edges under and sew to the zipper tapes and to the skirt attachment seam.

Neaten Hems

18. Press the 5⁄8" (1.5 cm) hem allowance to the inside. Neaten the hem edge and stitch the hem in place.

A Little Bit Audrey Sheath

Close-fitting with a high wasp waist, a funnel collar, and a pencil skirt, this dress is the epitome of the slim, feminine fashions of the 1950s. You can sew a timeless, elegant sheath when you make it with wool jersey, crop the sleeves to ¾ length, and add precise pleats under the bust.

To make this style look authentically vintage, sew a figure-hugging dress in an elegant floral print.

Skill Level: ●●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 27¾" (70.5 cm)

Finished sleeve length: 18" (45.5 cm)

Materials

Wool jersey, 60" (152.5 cm): size 36: 1⅞ yd (1.7 m); sizes 38, 40: 2 yd (1.8 m); sizes 42, 44: 2⅛ yd (1.9 m)

Fusible knit tricot interfacing

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Red pattern line

Sheet E, pattern pieces 1, 2, 4a, 6, and 7

Sheet F, pattern pieces 3 to 5

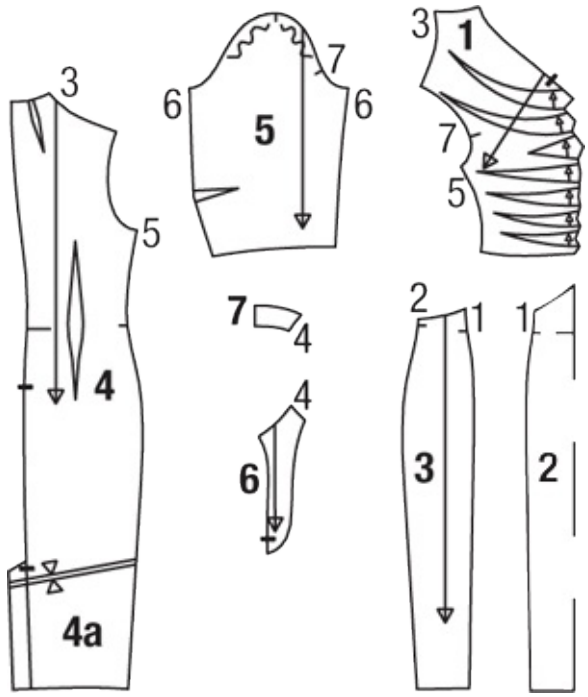
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pattern pieces 1 to 7 from the pattern insert. Transfer all pattern lines and markings, including dart lines, pleat lines, and seam numbers.

The pleat arrows on piece 1 are marked for size 36. If you're making a different size, extend the pleat arrows according to the size lines for your dress.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape pieces 4 and 4a together on the joining lines.

Cutting

Fold the dress fabric, with right sides together, and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from wool jersey:
Piece 1, upper front–2
Piece 2, center lower front–1 on the fold
Piece 3, side lower front–2
Piece 4, back–2
Piece 5, sleeve–2
Piece 6, front facing–2
Piece 7, back facing–2

Cut from interfacing:
Piece 6, front facing–2
Piece 7, back facing–2

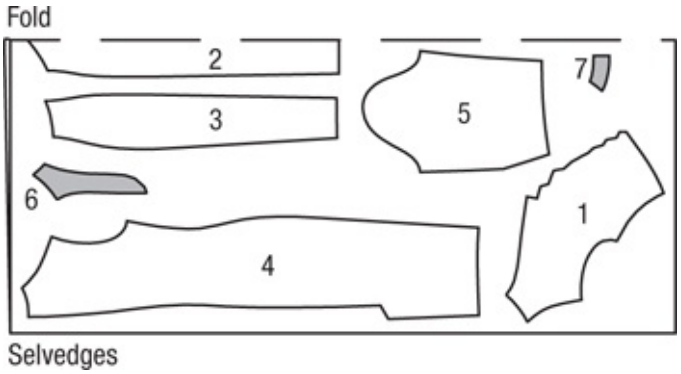
Fuse the interfacing pieces to the wrong side of the corresponding dress pieces.

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong sides of the lower edges of the upper front pieces, the shoulder edges on the front pieces, the armhole edges, and the zipper opening edges on the back pieces.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as dress fabric.

Wool jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction

right side of fabric

Baste Pleats

1. On each upper front piece, work from the inside to bring together the ¾" (2 cm) long pleats from the front edge to the arrow marking. Hand-baste the pleats as marked on the pattern pieces.

Lay pleat folds down, then press the pleat seams up to their pointed ends. Leave the basting stitches in the pleats, and baste the pleats to the front edges of the front pieces (Figure 1).

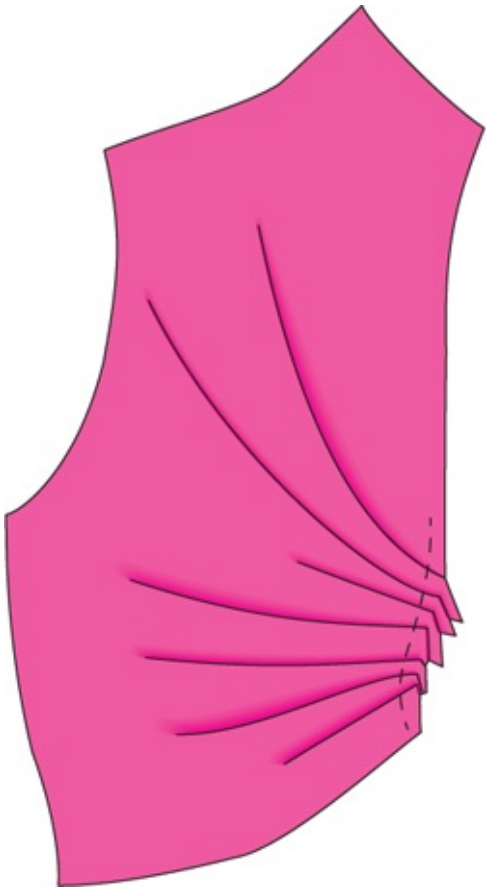


Figure 1

Pin Front Facings

2. Pin the front facings right sides together with the upper front pieces. Begin at the shoulder seam line and stitch along the neck and slit edges. Trim the seam allowances. Turn the lower facing ends back and pin in place.

Sew Center Front Seam

3. With right sides together, stitch the center front seam on the upper fronts, starting just below the slit mark and ending at the seam line on the lower edge.

Remove the pins from the facings and stitch the center front seam of the facings. Turn the facings to the inside and press the edges.

4. With right sides together, pin and stitch the side lower front pieces to the center lower front. Fold the allowance on the upper point of the lower front panel down horizontally and press.

5. With right sides together, pin and stitch the lower front panel to the upper front panel. Press the seam allowances up.

Stitch Darts

6. Fold each back piece down the center of the darts, right sides together. Stitch along the dart lines, starting at the outside edge and in the center of the double point darts, and backstitch only at the beginning of the seam. Press the darts toward the center of the back piece.

Insert Zipper

7. Sew the invisible zipper to the opening edges on the back pieces. (See instructions on sewing an invisible zipper.)

Sew Center Back Seam

8. With right sides together, pin and stitch the center back seam from the skirt vent on the back to the bottom of the zipper.

Pin Back Facings

9. Pin the back facings to the neck edges of the back pieces, right sides together. At the zipper opening, turn the facings back 3⁄16" (5 mm) before the opening edge, then pin the facings to the neck edge. Turn the seam allowances at the back opening edges of the dress to the outside and pin to the neck edge, over the facings.

Sew along the neck edge, ending the stitching exactly at the shoulder seam line. Trim the seam allowances. Turn the facings and allowances at the opening edges to the inside.

Stitch Side Seams

10. Lay the front panel on the back panel, right sides together. Stitch the shoulder seams. Turn the facings up again and stitch them together at the shoulder. Press the seam allowances open.

Sew Facings

11. Turn the facings to the inside of the garment. Pin, then sew the facings to the zipper tapes, neckline darts, shoulder seams, and center front seam.

Stitch Sleeves

12. Fold each sleeve along the center of the dart lines on the elbow, right sides together. Stitch along the dart lines, starting at the outside edge. Press the darts up.

13. Fold the sleeves in half lengthwise, then pin the sleeve seams. Stitch, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) sleeve hem allowances to the inside and sew in place by hand.

Set In Sleeves

14. Pin each sleeve to an armhole, right sides together, matching the marks. Carefully set in each sleeve, easing the sleeve caps into the armhole. Make sure the fullness is evenly distributed around the armhole.

Finish Hems

15. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowances to the inside and sew in place by hand. Press the allowances on the slit edges to the inside and sew in place over the hem.

16. Remove the basting stitches on the pleats on the bodice.

> **TIP:** To maintain crisp pleats on the bodice, baste them closed again before you have the dress dry cleaned.

• 9603

Beguiling in Blue Jacket and Skirt

This special occasion set harkens back to a time of casual elegance and everyday silk finery. This graceful jacket and skirt ensemble is made from Duchesse satin, a medium-weight satin with a lustrous sheen on one side. The jacket features a striking contrast between a conservative double-breasted front and lavishly flounced ¾–length sleeves. The simple skirt makes for a balanced look with a slight flare around the knees.

Jacket

Skill Level: ●●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished back length: 19" (48 cm)

Finished sleeve length: 18½" (47 cm)

Materials

Duchesse satin, 54" (137 cm) wide: all sizes: 1⅞ yd (1.7 m)

Lightweight lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: all sizes: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)

Fusible interfacing

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; four 1" (2.5 cm) diameter buttons to cover with fabric; one ⅝" (1.5 cm) diameter flat button; 2 shoulder pads

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line

Sheet A, pattern pieces 1, 2, 4 and 5

Sheet B, pattern pieces 3 and 6 to 8

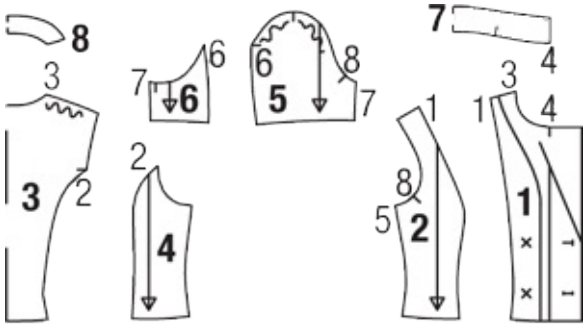
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size jacket you are making.

Trace pieces 1 to 8 from the pattern insert. Transfer all of the pattern lines and markings, including dart lines and seam numbers.

Trace the jacket facing from piece 1 as a separate pattern piece.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold the jacket fabric with right sides together and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from Duchesse satin:
Piece 1, center front–2
Piece 1, front facing–2
Piece 2, side front–2
Piece 3, center back–1 on the fold
Piece 4, side back–2
Piece 5, upper sleeve–2
Piece 6, under sleeve–2
Piece 7, collar–2 on the fold
Piece 8, back facing–1 on the fold

Mark and cut from Duchess satin two sleeve flounces (piece a):
25" × 18¾" (63.5 × 47.5 cm)

The finished, gathered width of each sleeve flounce is 8¾" (22 cm).

Fold the lining in half lengthwise, right sides together.

Cut from lining:
Piece 1, center front—2, minus the width of the facing
Piece 2, side front—
Piece 3, center back—1, minus the neck facing and plus an ease pleat of ¾" (2 cm) at the center back
Piece 4, side back—2
Piece 5, upper sleeve—2
Piece 6, under sleeve—2

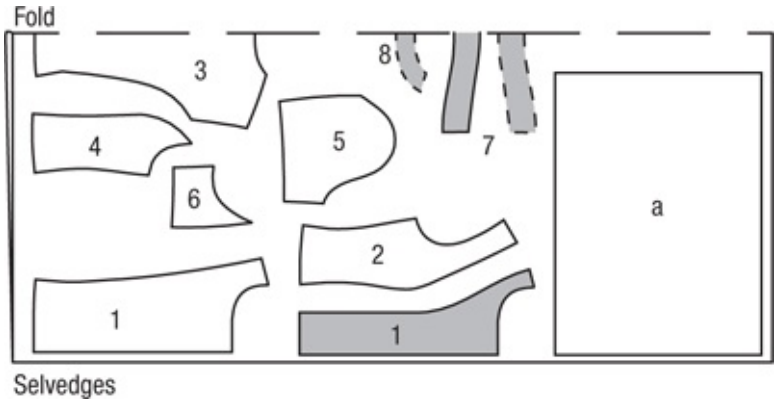
Cut from interfacing:
Piece 1, front facing—2
Piece 7, collar—2 on the fold
Piece 8, back facing—1 on the fold

Fuse bias stay tape to the armhole edges. Fuse the interfacing to the corresponding jacket pieces. Fuse 1⅝" (4 cm) strips of interfacing to the hem edges of the jacket.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces out from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place pieces shown with a broken line printed side down.

Duchesse satin, 54" (137 cm) wide



Jacket Construction

right side of fabric

interfacing

Sew Front and Back Section Seams

1. With right sides together, pin the two side front pieces to the two center front pieces. Stitch the seams.

With right sides together, pin the two side back pieces to the center back piece, then stitch the seams. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each front and back section seam. Press the seam allowances open.

Stitch Side and Shoulder Seams

2. Lay the front section on top of the back section, right sides together, and pin. Stitch the side seams and the shoulder seams, backstitching to secure at the beginning and end of each seam. Press the seam allowances open.

3. With right sides together, pin the two front facing pieces to the center front section. Stitch the facing seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam. Press the seam allowances open.

4. Pin the facing to the jacket, right sides together. Build a little extra fullness into the corners of the lapels. Stitch the facing in place, along the front edges and the edges of the lapels, up to the seam marks. Leave the facing lying right sides together with the jacket.

Sew Collar

5. Stitch the collar pieces together along the outer edges, building a little extra fullness into the top collar. Begin and end the stitching on the narrow edges, exactly at the seam line at the attachment edge.

6. Turn the collar right side out and lay it between the jacket and the facing. Stitch the undercollar to the neck edge of the jacket. Stitch the top collar to the facing. Press the seam allowances of the collar attachment seams open.

7. Turn the facing to the inside. Pin the collar attachment seams together exactly. Turn the back facing up and stitch the seam allowances together, close to the collar attachment. Turn the facing down.

At the hem edge, unfold the facing. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside of the jacket, then turn down again.

Sew Sleeves

8. With right sides together, pin the under sleeve pieces to the upper sleeve pieces, taking care to match seam marks 6 and 7. Stitch the two pieces of each sleeve together.

9. With right sides together, stitch the narrow edges of each sleeve flounce piece together. Fold the flounces in half, wrong sides together. Do not press the fold edge. Baste a line of stitches in the seam allowance of the upper flounce edge; baste another line of stitches ¼" (6 mm) away from the first line. Pull on the bobbin threads to gather, distributing the gathers evenly around the flounces.

Pin, then stitch the flounces to the lower sleeve edges, right sides together.

Set In Sleeves

10. Place one sleeve in each armhole, right sides together, matching armhole markings, and pin. Make sure the under sleeve seam matches the side back seam at seam mark 2.

Ease in the sleeve caps, making sure the fullness is evenly distributed around the armhole. Stitch the sleeves to the armholes.

11. Try on the jacket to determine the shoulder pad location, then pin them in place on the inside. Turn the jacket inside out and stitch the pads in place.

Sew Jacket Lining

12. On the center back lining piece, stitch 2" (5 cm) at the top and bottom of the ease pleat. Baste in between the two lines of stitching. Press the ease pleat to one side. (See instructions on sewing an ease pleat.)

13. Stitch the seams of the lining, following Steps 1 and 2. Sew the sleeve linings as in Steps 8 and 9. Set in the sleeve linings as in Step 10.

14. With right sides together, sew the lining to the inside facing edge. Lay the lining inside the jacket, wrong sides facing, and pull the sleeve linings into the jacket sleeves. Turn the hem allowance to the inside and sew in place by hand.

15. Turn the lining edge under along the hem edge and lightly press the fold edge. Slide the lining hem upward in a shallow curve and pin to the jacket hem allowance. Sew the facings and lining in place (Figure 1). Lay the extra length of lining down and lightly press the fold.

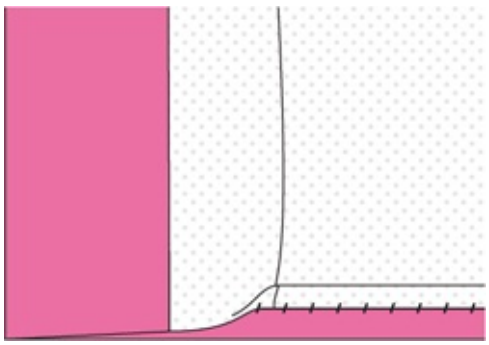


Figure 1

16. On the sleeves, turn the lining edges under and sew to the flounce attachment seams.

Finish Jacket

17. Stitch the buttonholes on the right front panel as marked. Cover the four buttons with Duchesse satin, then sew them to the left front panel to correspond with the buttonholes.

Stitch the top buttonhole on the left front for the small inside button. Sew the button to the corresponding spot on the right front.

> **TIP:** There is no correct location for attaching the shoulder pads. They should create a natural shoulder line. The right fit depends on the shape of your shoulders, so try the jacket on and test the placement of the shoulder pads before stitching them in place.

Skirt

Skill Level: ●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished skirt length: 24½" (62 cm)

Note: To make both the jacket and the skirt, you will need a total of 2¾ yd (2.5 m) of 54" (137 cm) wide Duchesse satin and 1¾ yd (1.6 m) of 54" (137 cm) wide lining fabric.

Materials

Duchesse satin, 54" (137 cm) wide: all sizes: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)

Lightweight lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: all sizes: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)

Fusible interfacing

Notions: One ⅝" (1.5 cm) diameter button; 1 invisible zipper, 9" (23 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line

Sheet C, pattern piece 1

Sheet D, pattern piece 2

Size 34

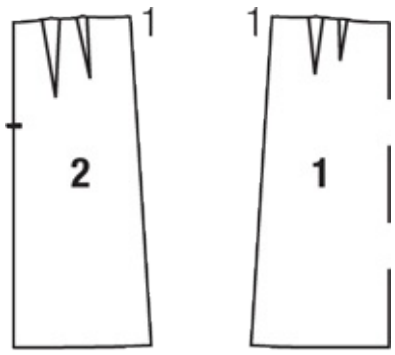
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size skirt you are making.

Trace pieces 1 and 2 from the pattern insert. Transfer all of the pattern lines and markings, including dart lines and seam numbers.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold the skirt fabric in half lengthwise, with right sides together, and lay out pattern pieces 1 and 2. Pin them in place.

Cut from Duchesse satin:

Piece 1, front skirt panel–1 on the fold
Piece 2, back skirt panel–2

Mark and cut from Duchesse satin the waistband (piece a), which includes a 1¼" (3.2 cm) underlap (this measurement includes ⅝" [1.5 cm] seam allowances):

Size 34: 28" × 1⅞" (71 × 4.7 cm)
Size 36: 29¾" × 1⅞" (75.5 × 4.7 cm)
Size 38: 31¼" × 1⅞" (79.5 × 4.7 cm)
Size 40: 32¾" × 1⅞" (83 × 4.7 cm)
Size 42: 34¼" × 1⅞" (87 × 4.7 cm)
Size 44: 36" × 1⅞" (91.5 × 4.7 cm)

Cut out a corresponding piece of interfacing for the waistband. Apply it to the piece cut from satin.

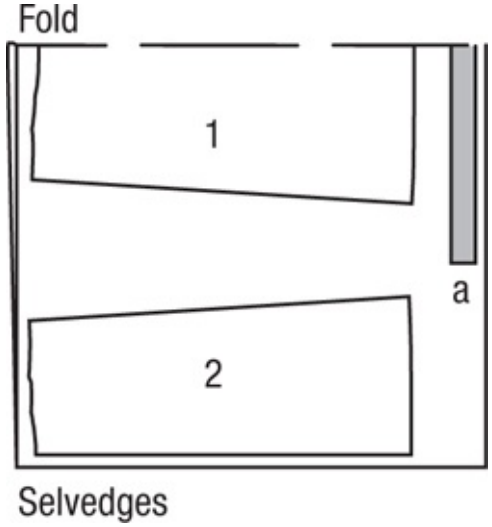
Fold the lining in half lengthwise, with right sides together.

Cut from lining:
Piece 1, front skirt panel–1 on the fold
Piece 2, back skirt panel–2

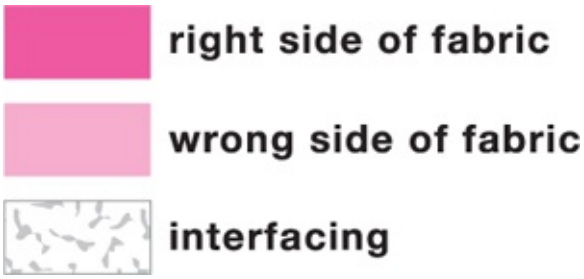
Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded piece out from interfacing as well as skirt fabric.

Duchesse satin, 54" (137 cm) wide



Skirt Construction



Sew Darts

1. Fold both of the skirt panels down the center of each dart, right sides together. Pin, then stitch on the dart lines, beginning at the outside edges. Press each dart toward the center of the skirt.

Insert Invisible Zipper

2. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper to the two back skirt panel pieces. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.)

Sew Skirt Seams

3. With right sides together, pin the two back skirt panel pieces together. Stitch the center back seam from the lower edge of the skirt to the zipper. Pin the back skirt panel and front skirt panel together and stitch the side seams. Press the seam allowances open.

Sew Lining Seams

4. Stitch the darts in the lining pieces as in Step 1.

5. Stitch the seams of the lining as in Step 3, leaving the zipper opening in the back.

Baste Lining to Skirt

6. Place the lining inside the skirt, with wrong sides together. Turn the edges of the opening under and sew to the zipper tapes. Baste the upper edge of the lining to the upper skirt edge.

Attach Waist Band

7. With right sides together, stitch the waistband to the upper skirt edge. Leave the underlap extending at the right back opening edge. Press the seam allowances of the attachment seam and of the other long edge toward the waistband (Figure 1).

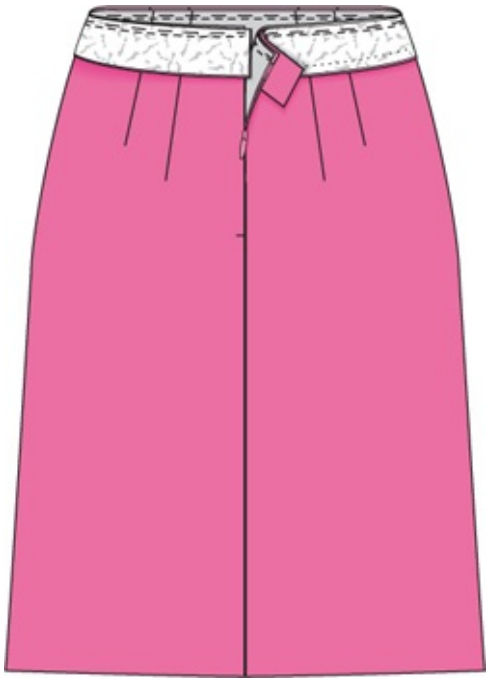


Figure 1

8. Fold the waistband lengthwise, right sides together, and stitch across the ends. Turn right side out. Sew the inside of the waistband edge to the attachment seam, then sew the underlap edges together (Figures 2 and 3).

Figure 2

Figure 3

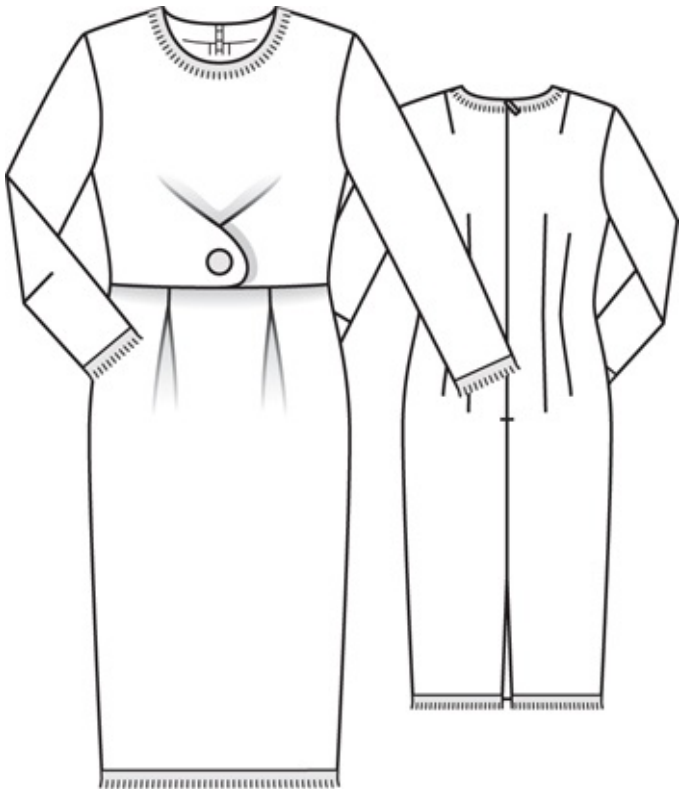
Finish Skirt

9. Stitch the buttonhole in the left back end of the waistband. Sew the button to the right back end of the waistband.

10. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance on the skirt to the inside and sew in place by hand. Fold the ⅝" (1.5 cm) hem allowance on the lining to the inside and sew in place, making it ¾" (2 cm) shorter than the skirt.

Très Tweed Mock Two-Piece

This French couture style is evocative of the 1960s, but it’s updated with a modern tweed bouclé fabric and decorative fringed edges. The bodice looks like a short jacket with curved edges, accented with a large button, and the Christian Dior-style pencil skirt ends elegantly at the knee. This slim silhouette is made more comfortable by a cleverly underlaid vent at the back hemline. Choose a dress fabric that can be easily frayed for the decorative edges at the sleeve and skirt hems.



Skill Level: ●●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42

Finished length from the waist: 26¾" (68 cm)

Finished sleeve length: 19" (48 cm)

Materials

Novelty bouclé, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 2¼ yd (2.1 m)

Lightweight lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: all sizes: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)

Lightweight fusible interfacing

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot; one 1¼" (3.2 cm) diameter decorative button

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line

Sheet C, pattern pieces 21, 23, and 27

Sheet D, pattern pieces 22, 23a, 24 to 26, and 28

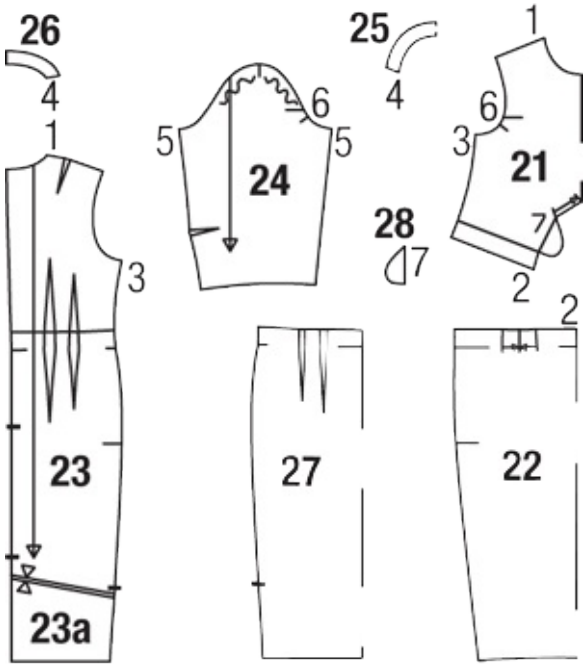
Size 34

Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you want to make.

Trace pieces 21 to 28 from the pattern insert. Transfer pattern lines and markings, including dart lines, pleat lines, and seam numbers.

The pleat arrow on piece 21 is marked for size 34. For all other sizes, extend the pleat arrow according to the size lines for your dress.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape pieces 23 and 23a together on the joining lines and label as the back skirt lining.

Cutting

Fold the dress fabric with the right sides together and matching any stripes or plaid lines in the fabric. Lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from novelty bouclé:
Piece 21, upper front–1 on the fold
Piece 22, lower front–1 on the fold
Piece 23, back–2
Piece 24, sleeve–2
Piece 25, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 26, back neck facing–2
Piece 28, front facing–2

Using the wrong side of the novelty bouclé as the right side, cut:
Piece a, underlap:
9⅛" × 13¾" (23 × 35 cm)

Piece b, fringe strip for neck edge:
Size 34: 23¼" × 1" (59 × 2.5 cm)
Size 36: 23¾" × 1" (60 × 2.5 cm)
Size 38: 24" × 1" (61 × 2.5 cm)
Size 40: 24½" × 1" (62 × 2.5 cm)
Size 42: 24¾" × 1" (63 × 2.5 cm)

Piece c, fringe strips for lower sleeve edges (cut 2):
Size 34: 11⅛" × 1" (28 × 2.5 cm)
Size 36: 11½" × 1" (29 × 2.5 cm)
Sizes 38, 40: 12" × 1" (30.5 × 2.5 cm)
Size 42: 12¼" × 1" (31 × 2.5 cm)

Piece d, fringe strip for lower dress edge:
Size 34: 34" × 1" (86 × 2.5 cm)
Size 36: 35½" × 1" (90 × 2.5 cm)
Size 38: 37" × 1" (94 × 2.5 cm)
Size 40: 38¾" × 1" (98.5 × 2.5 cm)
Size 42: 40¼" × 1" (102 × 2.5 cm)

Fold the lining in half lengthwise, right sides together.

Cut from lining:
Piece 23, back skirt lining–2
Piece 27, front skirt lining–1 on the fold

Also cut from lining:
Piece e, slit reinforcement:
2" × 2" (5 × 5 cm)

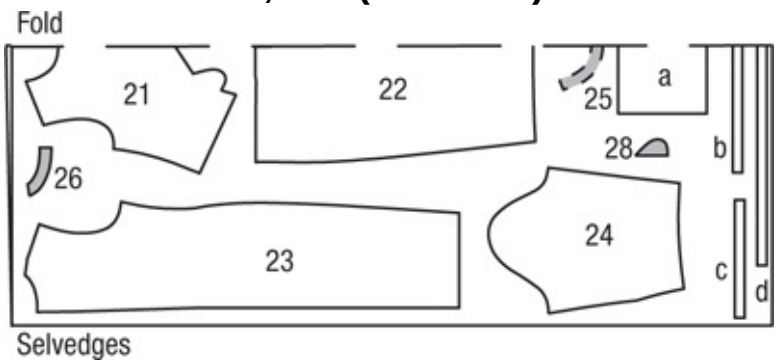
Cut from interfacing:
Piece 25, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 26, back neck facing–2
Piece 28, front facing–2

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the armhole edges. Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the corresponding dress pieces.

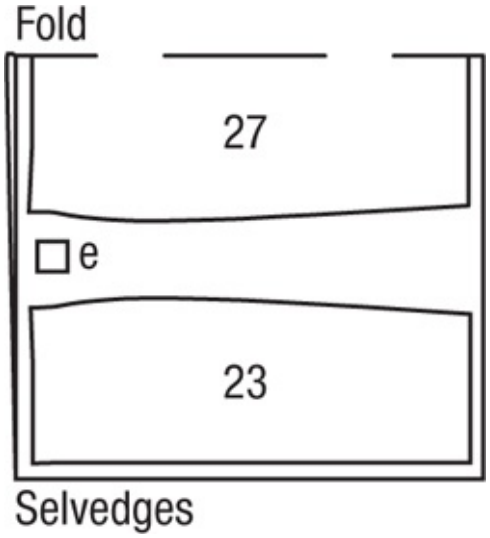
Cutting Layouts

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Match stripes. Cut shaded piece from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place piece shown with a broken outline printed side down.

Bouclé, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Lining, 54" (137 cm) wide



Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

interfacing

Stitch Darts

1. Fold the back pieces in half down the center of each dart, right sides together. Stitch along the dart lines, beginning at the middle of the double-pointed darts and at the outside edge of the single dart. Backstitch only at the beginning of the seam; knot the threads at the point of the dart. Press the darts toward the center.

Insert Invisible Zipper

2. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper to the back opening edges. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.)

Sew Center Back

3. With right sides together, pin and sew the center back seam from the vent to the zipper opening. Press the seam allowances open.

Sew Dress Front

4. To make the mock fastening on the upper front, pin the front facings to the curved fastening edges, right sides together. Stitch from corner to corner. Clip the front seam allowances into the corners. Turn the facings to the inside and press the edges (Figures 1 and 2).

Figures 1 and 2

5. Fold the upper front down the center, right sides together, and stitch the short edges together from the lower edge to the faced fastening edges. Press the seam allowances open.

6. Above the fastening edges, lay the pleats in the direction of the arrows, laying the left fastening edge under the right fastening edge. Sew the pleats to the facings on the inside. Press the lower front edge to the inside on the fold line (Figure 3).

Figure 3

7. For each inverted pleat, fold the lower front on the center pleat line, right sides together. Stitch the outer pleat lines together from the top to the arrow marking. Lay the pleats in the direction of the arrows. Press the pleats in the length of the seams, then baste to the upper edge (Figure 4).

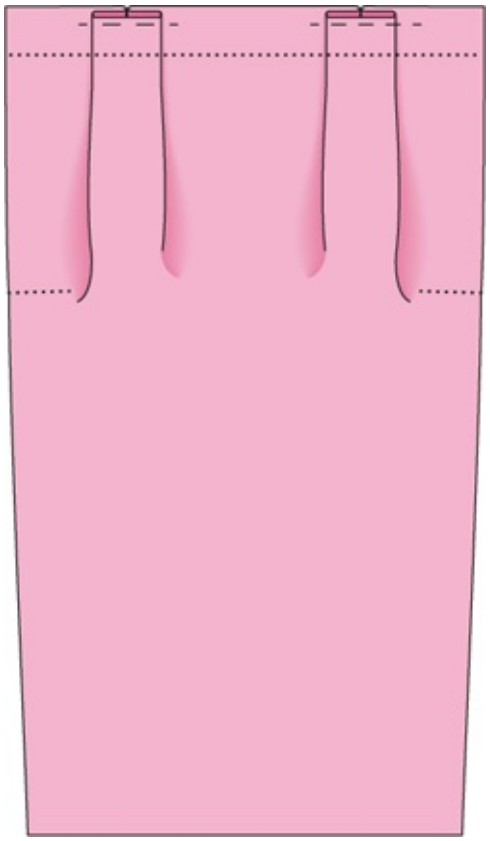


Figure 4

8. With right sides together, pin the lower edge of the upper front to the upper edge of the lower front at the placement line. Stitch the upper edges together. Baste the side edges together.

Stitch Side and Shoulder Seams

9. Pin the front panel of the dress to the back panel, right sides together. Stitch the side seams and the shoulder seams. Sew the shoulder seams on the front neck facing and the back neck facing. Press the seam allowances open, then neaten the lower edge.

Add Neck Facing

10. Pin the facing to the neck edge of the dress, right sides together. At the zipper opening, turn the facing back 3⁄16" (5 mm) before the opening edge and baste by hand to the upper edge.

On the dress, turn the seam allowances of the opening edges to the outside and pin to the neck edge over the facing. Stitch along the neck edge, then trim the seam allowances and clip the curves.

11. Turn the seam allowances at the opening edges to the inside. Turn the facing up and understitch as close to the seam as possible. Turn the facing to the inside and press the neck edge. Sew the neckline facing to the zipper tapes and to the shoulder seams.

Sew Sleeves

12. Fold the sleeves down the center of each dart, right sides together. Stitch along the dart lines, beginning at the outside edges. Press the darts up.

13. With right sides together, pin and stitch the sleeve seams. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) sleeve hem allowances to the inside. Neaten the raw edges, then sew the sleeve hems in place by hand.

Set In Sleeves

14. With right sides together, pin each sleeve into an armhole, matching pattern marking 6. Set in the sleeves, easing in the sleeve caps and taking care to evenly distribute the fabric around the sleeve cap. (See instructions on setting in sleeves.)

Finish Hem Allowance

15. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside of the skirt. Neaten the raw edge. Sew in place by hand. Press the seam allowances on the vent edges to the inside, neaten the edges, and sew in place by hand.

Create Fringe

16. On the fringe strips for the neck, sleeves, and skirt, draw out the fabric threads along one long strip edge to create a fringe ⅜" (1 cm) wide. Neaten the other long edge by sewing a line of zigzag stitching over the edge.

17. With the wrong side of the fringe fabric facing up and the fringe pointing down, pin the fringe strips to the right side of the neck edge, lower sleeve edges, and lower dress edge. Edgestitch the neatened edges in place (Figure 5).

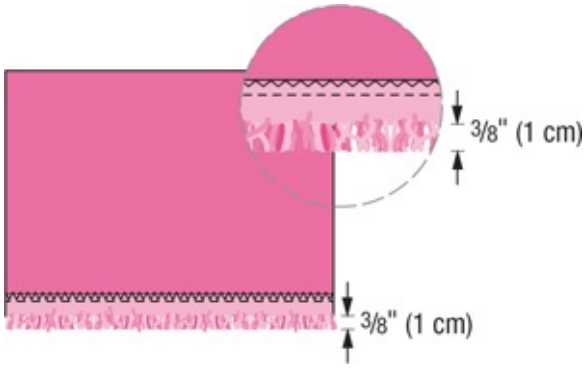


Figure 5

Sew Skirt Lining

18. With right sides facing, fold the front skirt lining down the center of the darts, right sides together. Stitch on the dart lines, beginning at the outside edges. Repeat to stitch the darts in the back skirt lining. Press the darts toward the centers.

19. With right sides together, pin the front skirt lining to the back skirt lining at the side seams, leaving an opening for the zipper and a walking slit in the left side seam. Stitch both side seams. Press the seam allowances open; press the seam allowances on the slit edges to the inside.

20. Fold the 2" × 2" (5 × 5 cm) square of lining fabric into a triangle and press. Neaten the edges. Pin the slanted, neatened edges to the top of the lining slit, narrowly turn under the edges, and handstitch in place (Figure 6).

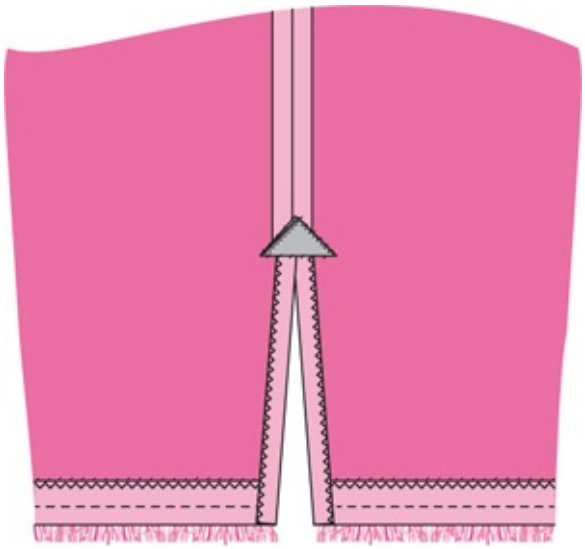


Figure 6

Attach Lining

21. Pull the skirt lining into the dress, with wrong sides facing. Stitch the lining to the seam allowance of the front skirt attachment seam, sewing as far as possible at the side. Sew the upper edge of the back skirt lining to the dress darts. Turn the edges of the skirt lining under and sew to the zipper tapes.

Hem the lining so that it is ¾" (2 cm) shorter than the dress.

22. On the underlap for the back vent, press the hem allowance to the inside, then sew in place by hand. Pin the underlap to the skirt lining at the center back, with wrong sides facing, so that it extends ⅝" (1.5 cm) past the hem edge of the lining. Stitch the underlap to the lining (Figure 7).

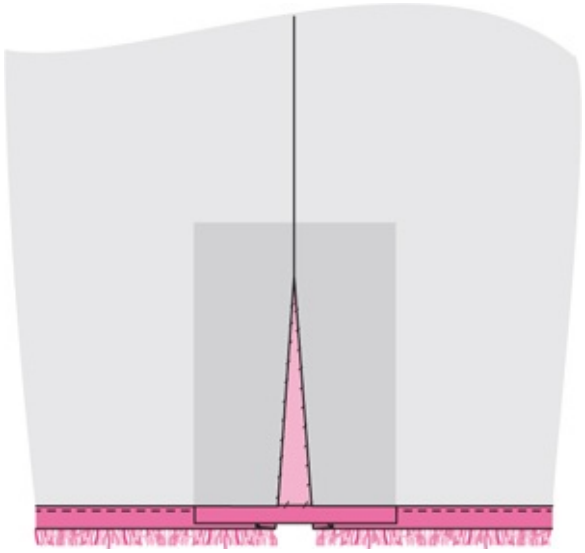


Figure 7

Sew on Button

23. Sew the large, decorative button for the mock fastening to the center front, catching the underlayers of fabric.

Make a Très Tweed Mock Two-Piece in a solid color and pair with matching leather gloves and pearls for a perfectly vintage look.

Chapter 2

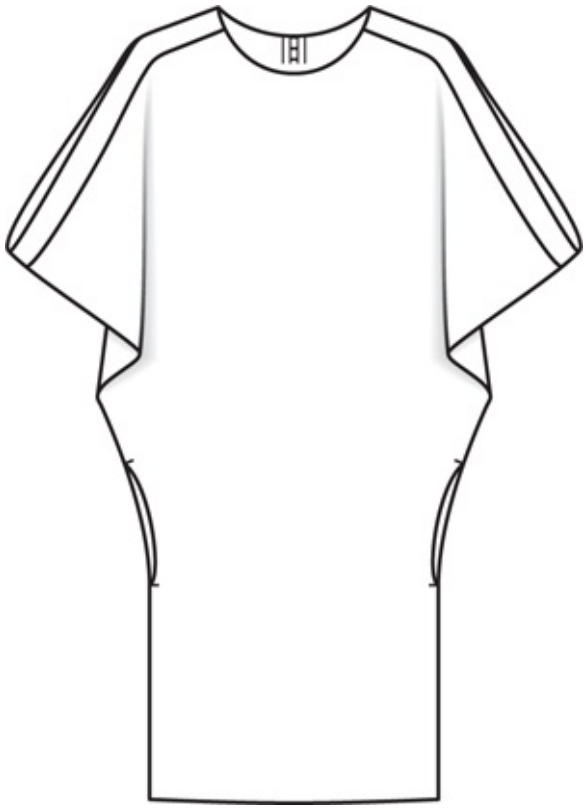
Trendy

Experimenting with trends lets you explore different facets of your fashion personality. Whether you’re a little subversive or feeling extra flirty, you need the right dress to express your excitement for trying something new. Trendy fashion can be as simple as an unusual fabric or the color of the moment. Or it can come from experimental construction: cutting-edge shapes, a steeply angled hemline, or folded and tucked seams reminiscent of origami.

This chapter offers a way for you to get a little bit rebellious and add something new and different to your wardrobe. Stitch up a sexy mini in the brightest red fabric you can find or sew a casual dress that gives you room to play with design. Uncover a trendy side of your own personal style.

Red Hot Mini

Airy and super chic, this casual silk mini dress has extra-wide shoulders and dolman sleeves. This dress is easy for a beginner to sew but still has subtle details that add up to a figure-flattering, eye-catching summer mini.



Turn a knee-length dress into a mini. Just add a hidden belt at hip level to lift the hem edge and hold it in place.

Skill Level: ●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished back length: 39" (99 cm)

Materials

Silk jacquard, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 36, 38: 1¾ yd (1.6 m); sizes 40, 42: 17/8 yd (1.7 m); size 44: 2 yd (1.8 m)

Lightweight fusible interfacing

Notions: 1 metal zipper, 7" (18 cm) long; zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Green pattern line

Sheet C, pattern pieces 1 to 3 and 5

Sheet D,

pattern pieces 2, 4, and 6

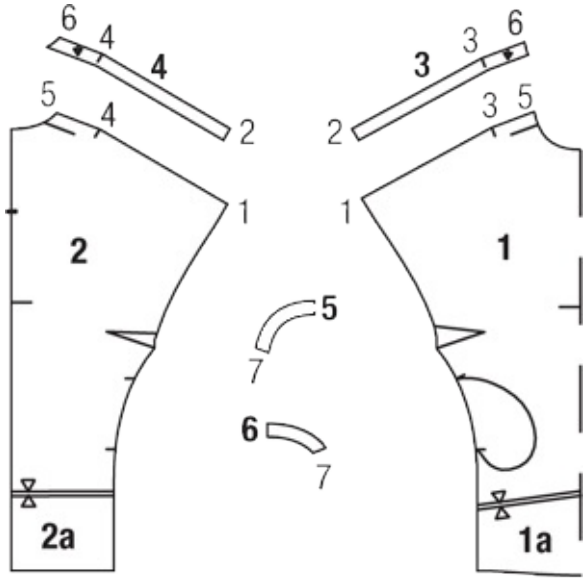
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you're making.

Trace pieces 1 to 6 from the pattern insert. Transfer all of the marked lines and pattern markings, including seam numbers.

Trace the pocket piece drawn on piece 1 as a separate pattern piece. To make cutting out the fabric pieces easier, trace the pocket a second time.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 1 and 1a and 2 and 2a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Fold the dress fabric in half, right sides together. Lay out and pin your pattern pieces to the fabric as shown in the cutting layout. Pieces 2, 4, and 5 should be placed with their printed sides facing down.

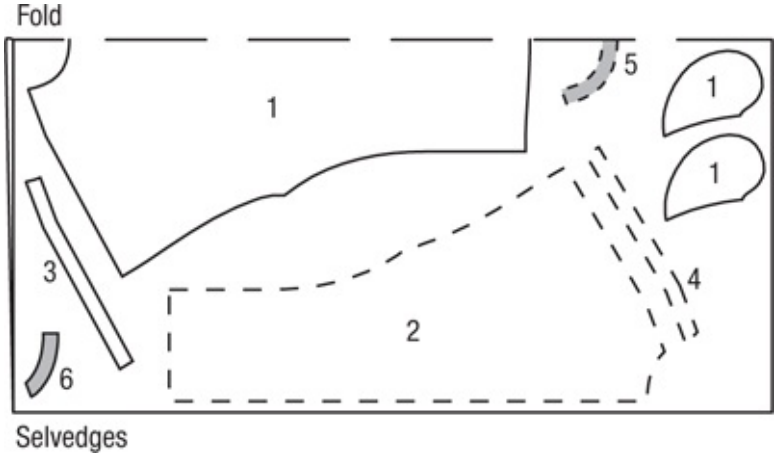
Cut from silk jacquard:
Piece 1, front–1 on the fold
Piece 1, pocket–4
Piece 2, back–2
Piece 3, front band–2
Piece 4, back band–2
Piece 5, front facing–1 on the fold
Piece 6, back facing–2

Using tailor’s chalk, transfer the dart lines from the front and back to the wrong side of the fabric pieces. Mark the slit marks and the seam marks on all of the pattern pieces.

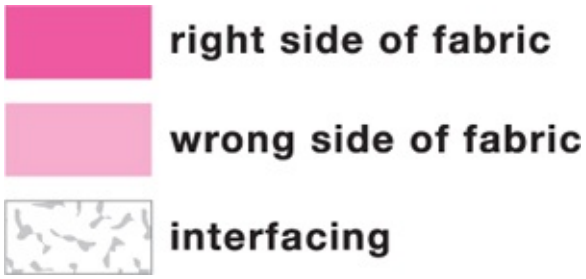
Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Place pieces shown with a broken line printed side down on the fabric. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as dress fabric.

Silk jacquard, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction



Sew Center Back Seam

1. Lay the two back pieces together, right sides facing. Pin the center back seam from the opening mark to the lower edge, then stitch (Figure 1). Secure the beginning and end of the center back seam with backstitching.

Figure 1

Neaten the edges of the seam allowances and the opening edges using a zigzag stitch or by serging. Press the seam open and press the seam allowances on the opening edges to the wrong side.

Stitch Darts

2. Fold each of the front and back pieces along the center of each dart, right sides together. Pin the dart lines together, then stitch along the dart lines beginning at the outside edge. Backstitch at the beginning of the seam, but do not backstitch at the point of the dart. Instead, knot the threads at the point of the dart (Figure 2). Press the front bust darts down. Press the back darts up.

Figure 2

Stitch Pockets and Side Seams

3. Neaten the side seam edges of the front and back pieces. Neaten the attachment edges of the pocket pieces using a zigzag stitch.

Pin each pocket piece to the side seam edge of a front or a back piece, right sides together, matching the markings on the seam allowances (Figures 3 and 4). Stitch the pocket piece to the seam allowance of front and back pieces, a scant ⅛" (3 mm) from the seam line.

Figure 3

Figure 4

4. Turn the pocket pieces over the attachment seams and press (Figure 5).

Figure 5

Lay the front piece on the back piece, right sides together. Pin the side seams, matching seam number 1. Stitch the side seams, but do not stitch across the pocket openings between the marks (Figure 6). Secure the beginning and end of each seam with backstitching.

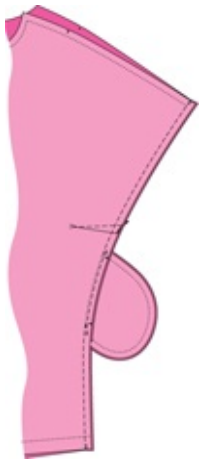


Figure 6

5. Press the seams open, pressing the pocket pieces apart (Figure 7). On each side, turn both pocket pieces toward the dress front, pin the pocket edges together, and stitch (Figure 8). Neaten the edges of the pocket seam allowances together. Do not turn the dress right side out yet.

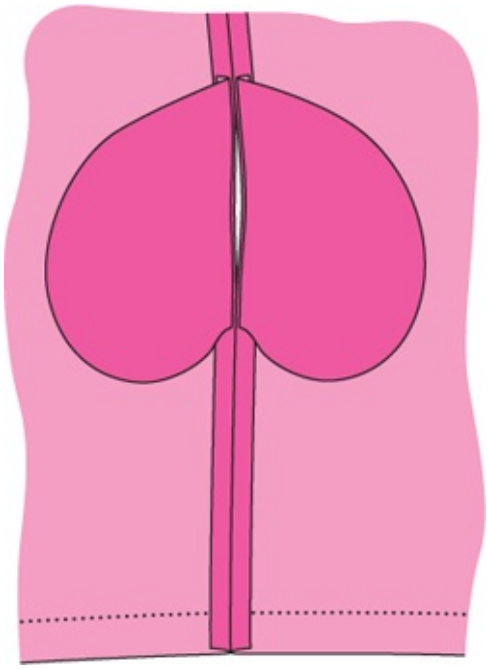


Figure 7

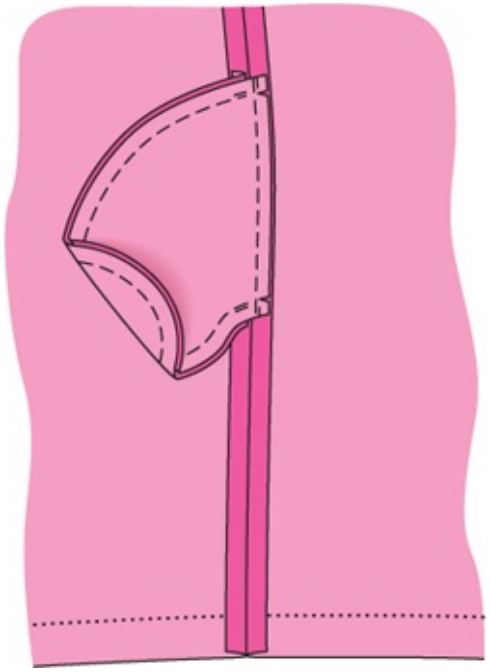


Figure 8

Sew Bands and Shoulder Seams

6. Lay each front band piece on a back band piece, right sides together. Pin the side seam edges, which are the straight, narrow edges, and stitch (Figure 9). Press the seams open.

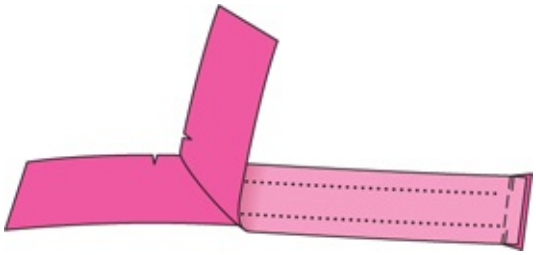


Figure 9

7. On each band unit, fold the seam allowance on the lower edge, which does not have markings, to the wrong side and press (Figure 10).

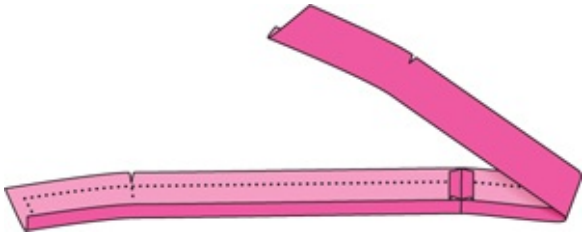


Figure 10

8. Lay the unpressed edge of each band unit on the corresponding upper front and back edges, with the right side of the band facing the wrong side of the dress (Figure 11). Pin the band in place between marks, matching the seams. Stitch the band to the dress, beginning and ending exactly at the marks. At the mark, turn the band ends back and pin in place (Figure 12).

Figure 11

Figure 12

9. Turn the dress right side out. Lay the dress front on the dress back, wrong sides facing. Pin the shoulder edges together from the marks to the neck edge. Stitch the seams as pinned (Figure 13).

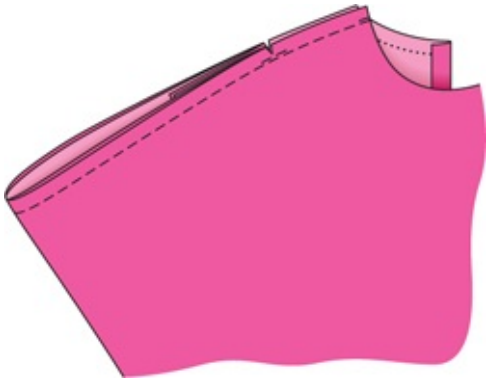


Figure 13

10. Turn the dress wrong side out again. Fold the shoulder edges of the dress down. Pin the upper edges of the loose band edges together, right sides together. Stitch the edges together as pinned (Figure 14).

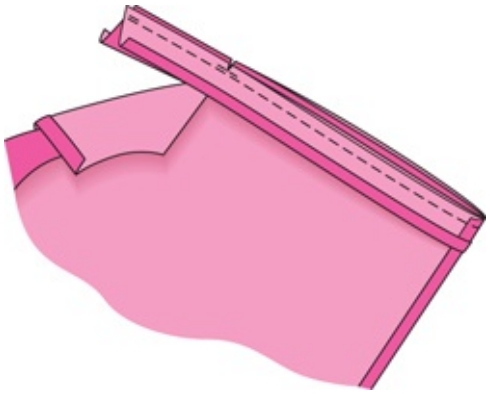


Figure 14

11. Press the shoulder seams open—this will be easiest to do along the edge of the ironing board. Turn the dress right side out again. Turn the bands to the right side of the dress. Make sure that the attachment seams lie exactly along the fold and the shoulder seams of the dress and band meet precisely. Press the fold edges. Pin the bands to the dress, then edgestitch the bands in place (Figure 15).

Figure 15

Stitch Facings

12. Lay the shoulder edges of the back facing pieces on the shoulder edges of the front facing piece, right sides together. Pin the shoulder seams and stitch (Figure 16). Press them open. Neaten the lower edge of the facing using a zigzag stitch or by serging.

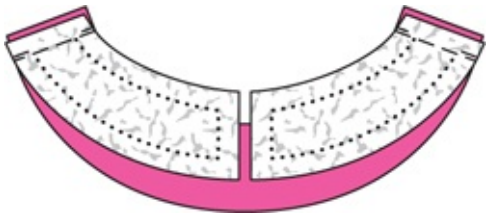


Figure 16

On the dress back, open the seam allowances on the opening edges out flat again.

13. Pin the facing to the neck edge of the dress, right sides together, then stitch. Trim the seam allowances and clip them along the curves (Figure 17).

Figure 17

Turn the facing up and understitch as close to the seam as possible (Figure 18). Turn the facing to the inside and press. Sew the facing to the shoulder seams by hand.

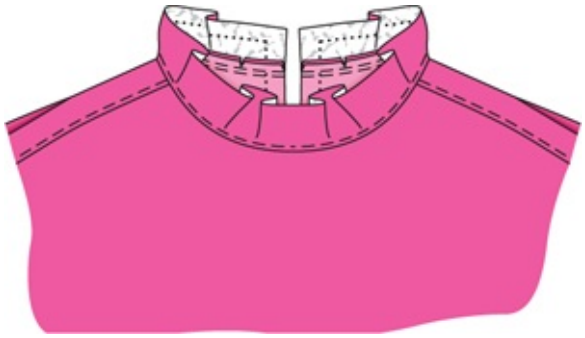


Figure 18

Insert Zipper

14. Fold the seam allowances on the opening edges on the dress back to the inside, then press. Pin the zipper to the right side of the fabric so that the zipper teeth meet the opening edges. Fold the ends of the zipper tapes over the neck edge to the inside. Using a zipper foot, stitch close to the zipper teeth. Edgestitch the edges of the zipper tape in place (Figure 19).

Figure 19

Finish Hem

15. Neaten the lower edge of the dress using a zigzag stitch or by serging. Turn the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside and press. Sew the hem loosely in place by hand (Figure 20).

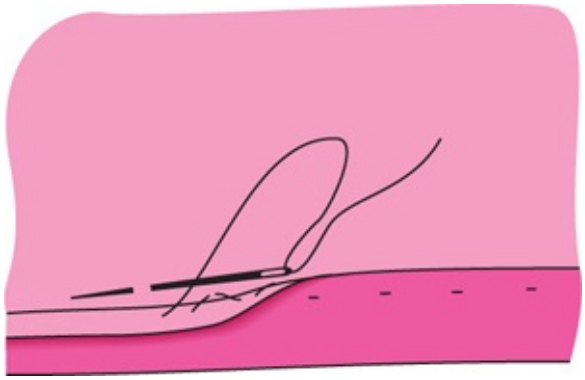


Figure 20

Blue Angles Asymmetrical Dress

This batik jersey dress is all about the angles—it features an asymmetric neckline and a single shoulder yoke that creates a mini sleeve. Its circular skirt is also set at an angle, which adds a dash of sophistication while giving you plenty of room to move. Stretch jersey is the ideal fabric for this dress, whatever print you choose.

Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 23" (58.5 cm)

Materials

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 1¾ yd (1.6 m)

Fusible knit tricot interfacing

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; ballpoint or stretch needle

Pattern Overview

Blue pattern line

Sheet C, pattern pieces 2 and 2a

Sheet D, pattern pieces 1 and 3

Size 34

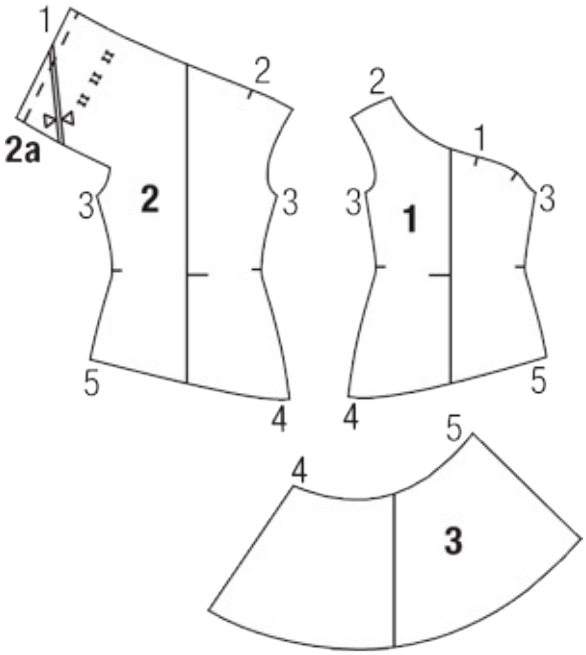
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you're making.

Trace pieces 1 to 3 from the pattern insert. Trace piece 3 a second time to make it easier to cut out the skirt.

Transfer all of the marked lines and pattern markings.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 2 and 2a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Lay out the fabric flat, right side facing up, and arrange the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from jersey:
Piece 1, front–1
Piece 2, back with integrated straps–1
Piece 3, skirt panel–1 facing up
Piece 3, skirt panel–1 facing down

Mark and cut from jersey the facing strips and shoulder loop:
Piece a, front neck edge facing:

Size 34: 16¼" × 1⅝" (41 × 4 cm)
Size 36: 17" × 1⅝" (43 × 4 cm)
Size 38: 17¼" × 1⅝" (44 × 4 cm)
Size 40: 18" × 1⅝" (46 × 4 cm)
Size 42: 18½" × 1⅝" (47 × 4 cm)
Size 44: 19" × 1⅝" (48 × 4 cm)

Piece b, right armhole facing:

Size 34: 16¼" × 1⅝" (41 × 4 cm)
Size 36: 16½" × 1⅝" (42 × 4 cm)
Size 38: 17¼" × 1⅝" (44 × 4 cm)
Size 40: 17¾" × 1⅝" (45 × 4 cm)
Size 42: 18" × 1⅝" (46 × 4 cm)
Size 44: 18½" × 1⅝" (47 × 4 cm)

Piece c, left back armhole facing:

All sizes: 4" × 1⅝" (10 × 4 cm)

Piece d, loop:

All sizes: 4" × 3" (10 × 7.5 cm)

Hand-baste along the strap attachment mark, the shoulder seam marks, and the tuck and stitching lines on the straps (Figure 1).

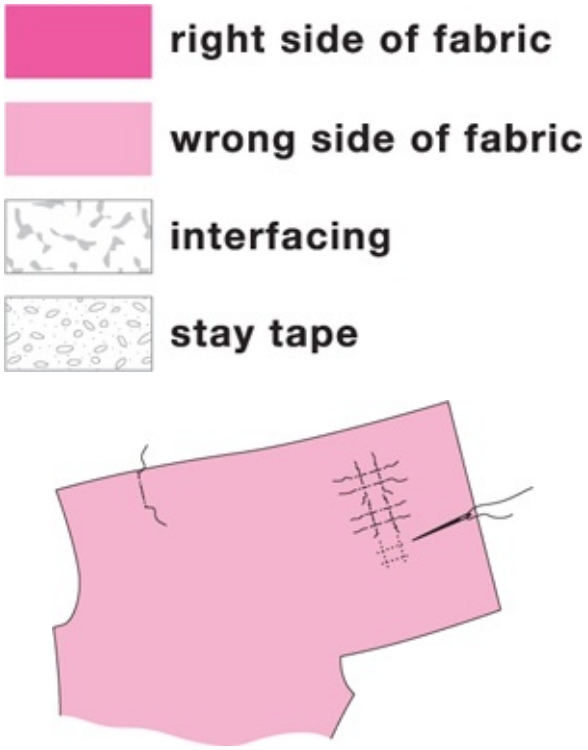


Figure 1

Fuse the stay tape to the wrong side of the armhole edges and the front neck edge.

Cut two strips of interfacing:
21¾" × ¾" (55 × 2 cm)

Fuse interfacing to the wrong side of the lower edges of the front and back pieces (Figure 2).

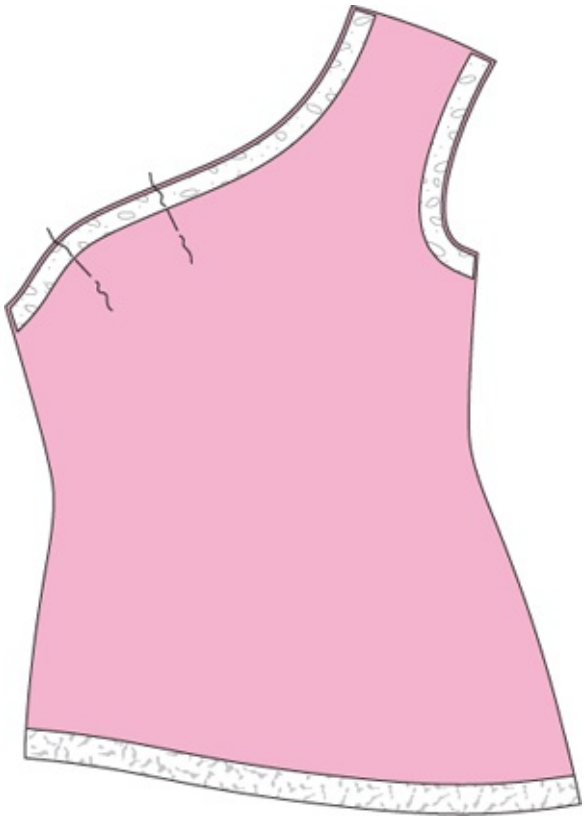
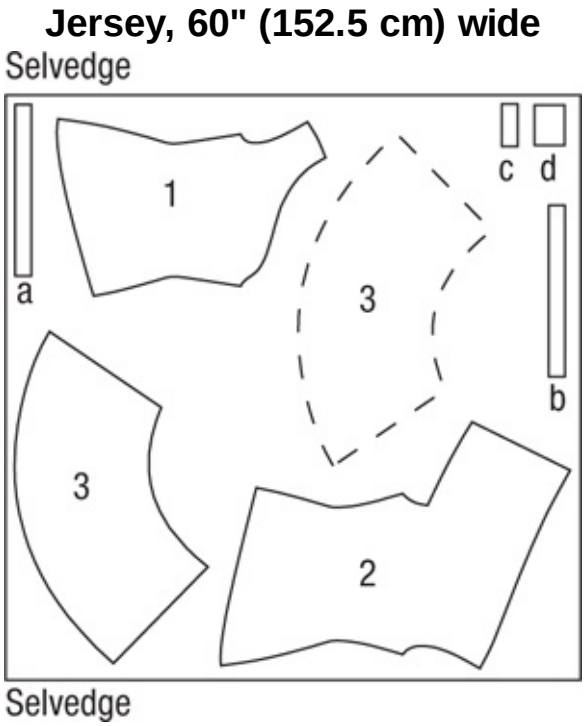


Figure 2

Cutting Layout

Cut from a single layer of fabric, right side up. Place piece shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.



Construction

Attach Skirt panels

1. Pin the front skirt panel to the lower front edge, right sides together. Pin the back skirt panel to the lower back edge, right sides together. Stitch both seams using a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance (Figure 3). Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Press the seam allowances upward.

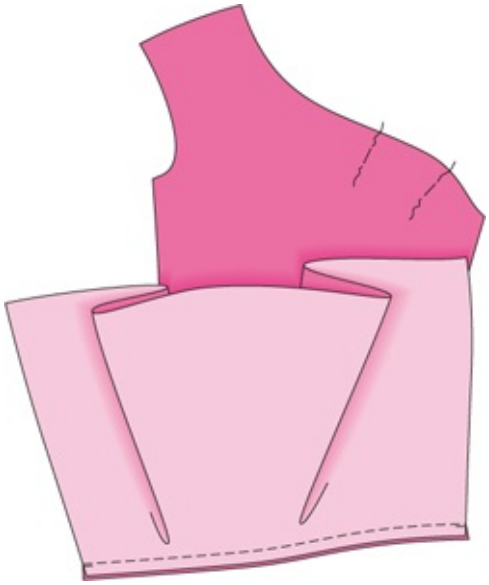


Figure 3

Add Front Neck Facing

2. Fold the front neck edge facing strip lengthwise in half, wrong sides together, and press. Pin the strip to the right side of the front neck edge so that the open edges are lying on the edge of the fabric. Stitch the strip in place, ⅜" (1 cm) from the fabric edges (Figure 4). Trim the seam allowances.

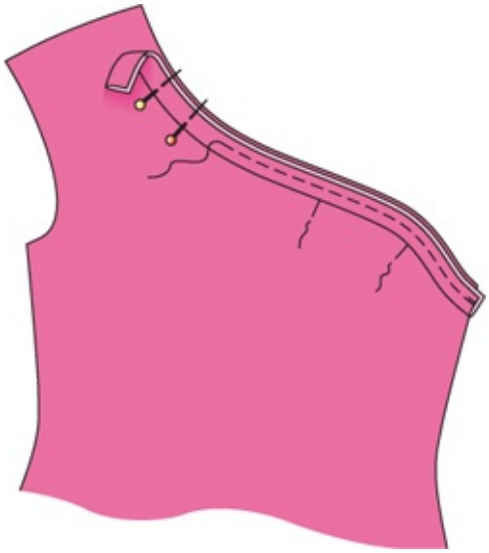


Figure 4

Turn the facing strip to the inside and baste by hand (Figure 5). Press the edge, but don’t topstitch it yet.

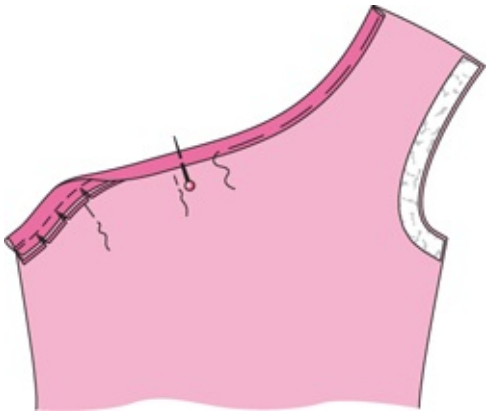


Figure 5

Add Left Back Armhole Facing

3. Fold, press, and pin the left back armhole facing strip to the back armhole as in Step 2. Stitch from the side edge of the back armhole to the corner (Figure 6). Clip the seam allowance of the back piece into the corner, close to the last stitch (Figure 7). Trim the seam allowances along the stitching line.

Figure 6

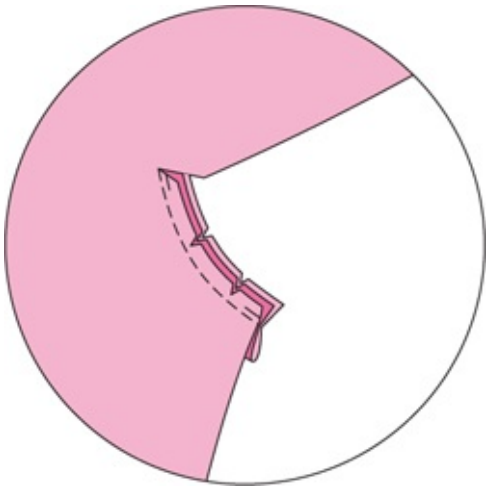


Figure 7

Turn the facing strip to the inside, press the edge, and topstitch 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the edge (Figure 8).

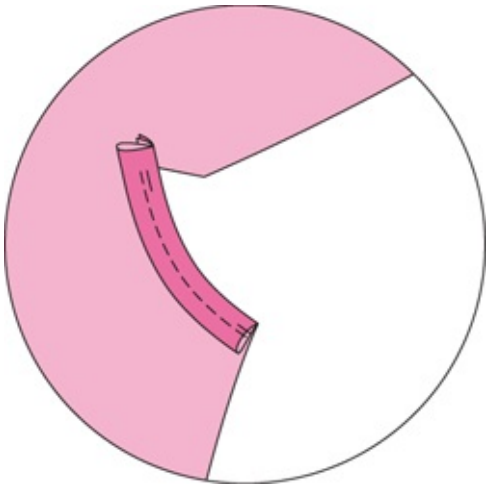


Figure 8

Stitch Right Shoulder Seam

4. Lay the front piece on the back piece, right sides together. Pin the right shoulder seam; the neck edge of the front piece should meet the notch. Stitch the shoulder seam using a ⅝" (1.5 cm) seam allowance (Figure 9). Press the seam allowances toward the back, but don't finish the edges yet.

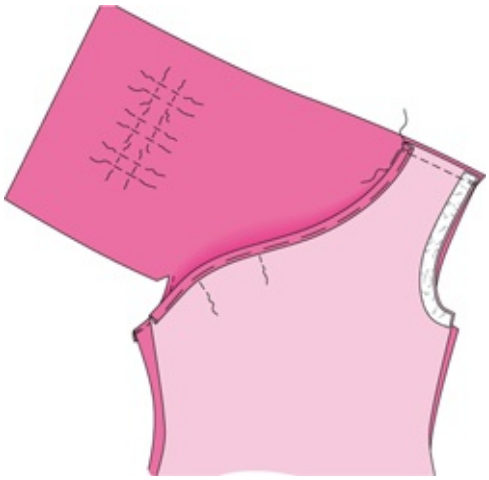


Figure 9

Topstitch Strap

5. Press the ⅝" (1.5 cm) seam allowances on the long edges of the strap (on the back with integrated strap piece) to the wrong side. Turn the edges of the seam allowances under ¼" (6 mm), running at an angle under the shoulder seam, then press.

Topstitch 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the strap edges on the upper edge, stitching as far as the shoulder seam, and on the lower edge, stitching as far as the stitching line on the armhole (Figure 10).

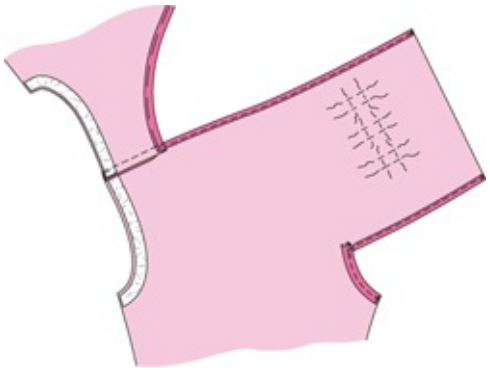


Figure 10

6. Fold the strap along one marked tuck fold line, wrong sides together. Topstitch as marked, ⅝" (1.5 cm) from the tuck fold (Figure 11). Stitch the other two tucks in the same manner.

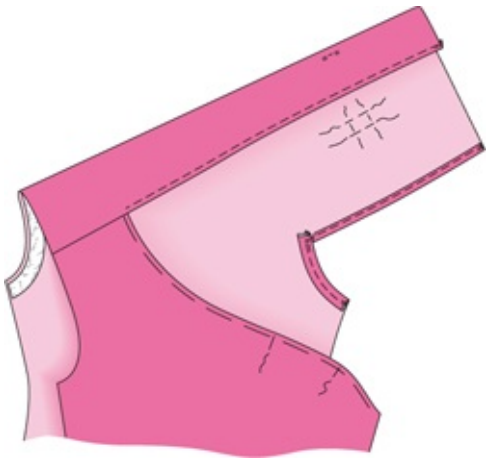


Figure 11

Add Right Armhole Facing

7. Fold, press, and pin the right armhole facing strip to the right armhole, right sides facing, as in Step 2. Stitch using a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance (Figure 12). Trim the seam allowances. Turn the facing strip to the inside, press the edge, and topstitch 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the armhole edge.

Figure 12

Sew Side Seams

8. Lay the front piece on the back piece, right sides together. Pin the side seams, taking care to match the skirt attachment seams. Using a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance, stitch the side seams (Figure 13).

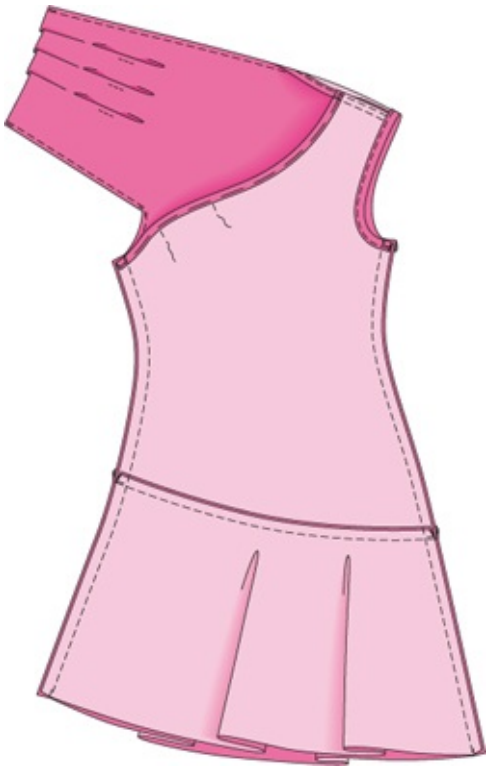


Figure 13

Press the seam allowances open. Sew the upper ends of the seam allowances to the armhole edges by hand.

Gather and Finish Strap

9. To gather the end of the strap, machine baste ½" (1.3 cm) from the end of the strap. Then machine baste again ⅜16" (5 mm) from the first line of stitching (Figure 14). Hold the bobbin threads together and gather the fabric to its finished width (Figure 15):

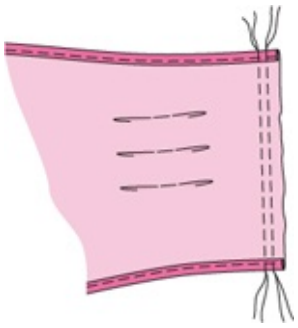


Figure 14

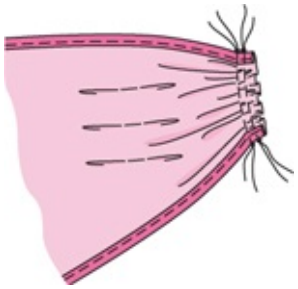


Figure 15

Size 34: 3½" (9 cm)

Size 36: 3¾" (9.5 cm)

Size 38: 4" (10 cm)

Size 40: 4⅛" (10.5 cm)

Size 42: 4⅜" (11 cm)

Size 44: 4½" (11.5 cm)

Knot the gathering threads.

10. Again, turn up the facing strip on the front neck edge. Lay the end of the strap on the front neck edge, between the notches, right sides together. Pin exactly on the attachment seam of the facing strip (Figure 16).

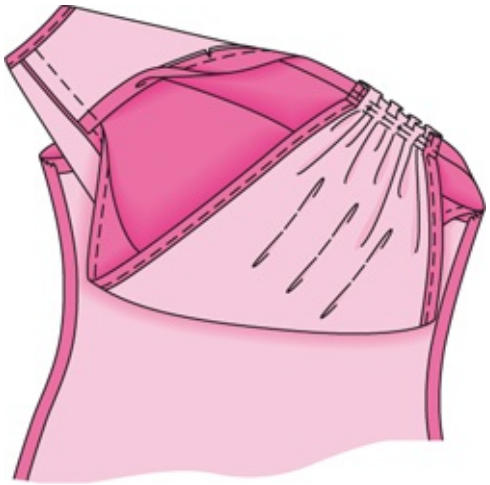


Figure 16

Try the dress on. Adjust the placement of the strap to fine-tune the fit. When the dress fits correctly, stitch the strap in place.

Topstitch Front Neck Edge

11. Lay both the facing strip of the front neck edge and the seam allowance on the end of the strap section on the front piece and pin in place. Topstitch 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the front neck edge—this will stitch the facing strip and the end of the strap in place (Figure 17).

Figure 17

Sew Shoulder Loop

12. Press the long edges of the loop piece to the wrong side, 1" (2.5 cm) wide (Figure 18). Press one narrow end to the wrong side, 5⁄8" (1.5 cm) wide.

Figure 18

Lay the loop around the shoulder seam (Figure 19). On the underside, pin the turned-under edge to the opposite end of the loop (Figure 20). Sew in place by hand.

Figure 19

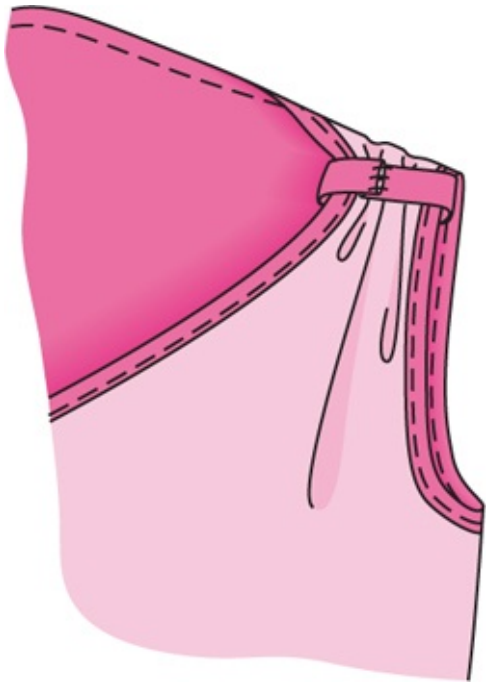


Figure 20

TIP: Unlike a woven fabric, jersey won’t ravel if you leave it unfinished. To get the same look of the Blue Angles Asymmetrical Dress, leave the lower skirt hem raw. If you prefer a more polished look, add a ⅝" (1.5 cm) hem allowance when cutting the fabric, which you can turn under for a finished hem.

Purple Party Tunic

This tunic, with its perfectly draped neckline, can be sewn up as either a short party dress that demands your sexiest heels or an easy-to-wear tunic perfect with a pair of casual ballet flats. Simple to sew, this dress can go straight from your sewing machine to the dance floor in just an hour or two, including the cutting—ideal for beginners! The tunic is made from jacquard, so look for softly draping fabrics to make your version.

Skill Level: ●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42

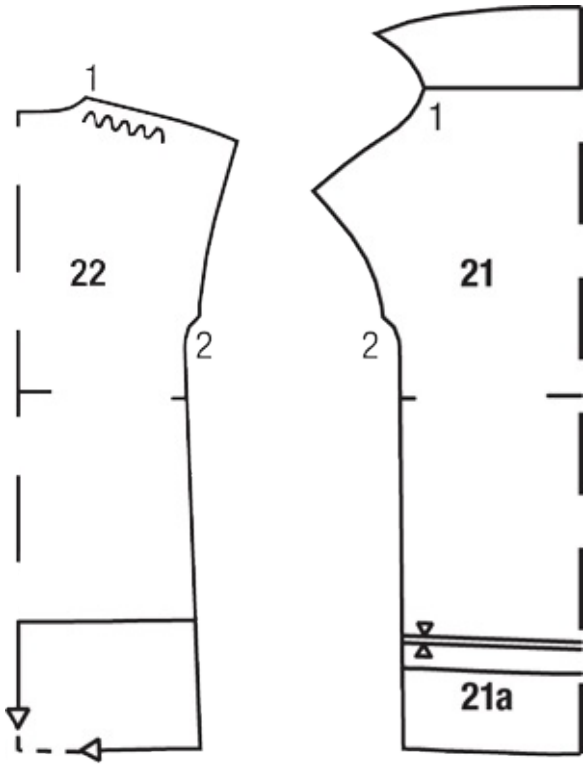
Finished length: 35½" (90 cm)

Materials

Jacquard, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 34, 36, 38, 40: 1⅜ yd (1.3 m); size 42: 1½ yd (1.4 m)
Notions: Fusible bias stay tape

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line, view B
Sheet G, pattern piece 22
Sheet H, pattern piece 21 and 21a
Size 34 ----------
Size 36 — — —
Size 38 — - - — - - — - -
Size 40 ---— ---—
Size 42 ~~~~~~~~~~



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you're making.

Trace pieces 21 and 22 from the pattern insert, following the lines for view B only. Transfer all pattern markings.Extend the pattern lines on piece 22 to complete the corner of the pattern.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 21 and 21a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Lay out the dress fabric and pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from jacquard:
Piece 21, front–1 on the fold
Piece 22, back–1 on the fold

From jacquard, cut on the bias the facing strip (piece a) for the back neck edge:
Sizes 34, 36: 9⅛" × 1⅝" (23 × 4 cm)
Sizes 38, 40: 9½" × 1⅝" (24 × 4 cm)

Size 42: 10" × 1⅝" (25.5 × 4 cm)

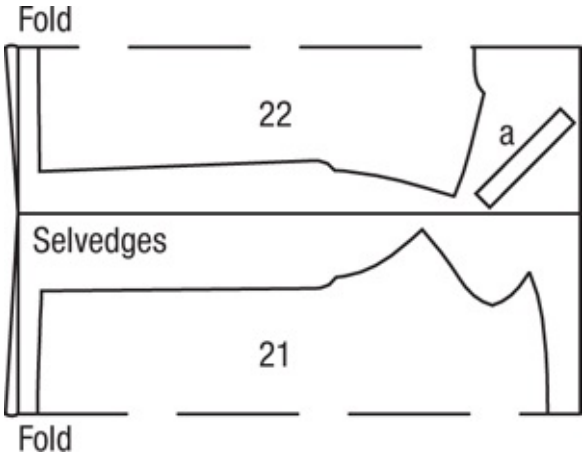
If you're working with a stretch fabric, fuse the bias stay tape on the wrong side of the fabric on the front shoulder seam edges, the back neck edge, and the armhole edges on both pieces.

If you're working with a woven fabric, fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the fabric on the back neck edge only.

Cutting Layouts

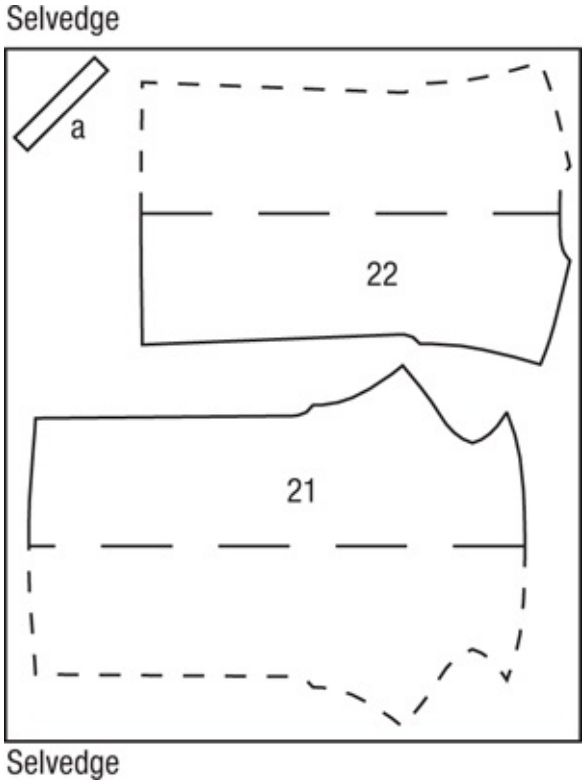
Jacquard, 60" (152.5 cm) wide

Sizes 34–40



Fold fabric as shown, right sides together.

Size 42



Cut from a single layer of fabric, right side up. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.

Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

stay tape

Add Facing Strip

1. Fold the facing strip for the back neck edge lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. Pin the folded facing strip to the back neck edge so that the fold edge of the strip lies on piece 22 about ⅜" (1 cm) past the seam line. Stitch along the marked neck edge seam allowance.

2. Turn the facing strip to the inside of the garment piece and press the edge. Topstitch ¼" (6 mm) from the neck edge.

3. Neaten the seam allowance on the long edge of the self-facing on the front piece using a zigzag stitch or by serging.

Sew Shoulder Seams

4. Pin the back shoulder edges to the front shoulder edges, right sides together. Lay the self-facing of the front on the back and pin the side facing edges to the shoulder edges. Stitch the shoulder seams, making sure to catch the facing as you sew (Figures 1 and 2). Turn the self-facing to the inside of the garment on the fold line. Do not press this fold edge.

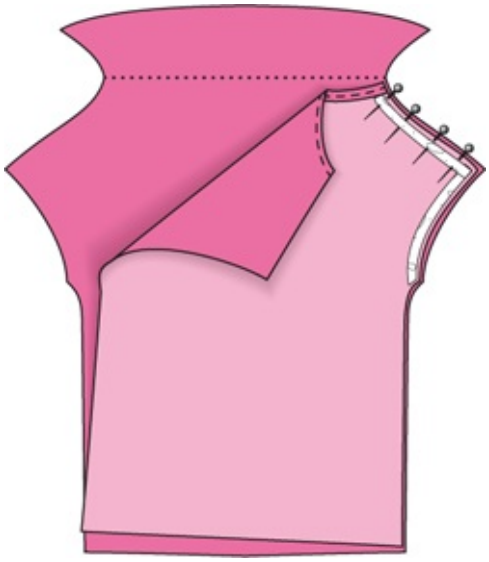


Figure 1

Figure 2

Stitch Armhole and Side Seams

5. Press the ¾" (2 cm) allowance on each armhole edge to the inside, turning it in twice to a width of ⅜" (1 cm), and stitch.

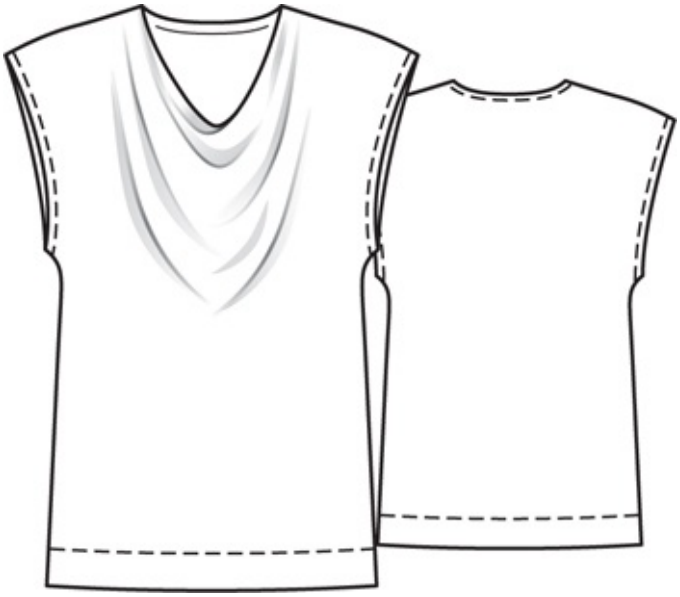
6. Stitch the side seams starting at seam number 2. Neaten the seam allowances together and press to one side. Sew the upper ends of the seam allowances in place by hand at the armhole.

Finish Hems

7. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside. Neaten the hem edges and sew in place.

Variation: Purple Party Cowl Top

Stitch a shorter version of the Purple Party Tunic to easily create a festive cowl top.



Skill Level: ●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42

Finished cowl top length: 28½" (72.5 cm)

Materials

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 34, 36, 38, 40: 11/8 yd (1 m); size 42: 1¼ yd (1.1 m)

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; twin stretch needle

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line, view A

Sheet G, pattern piece 22

Sheet H, pattern piece 21

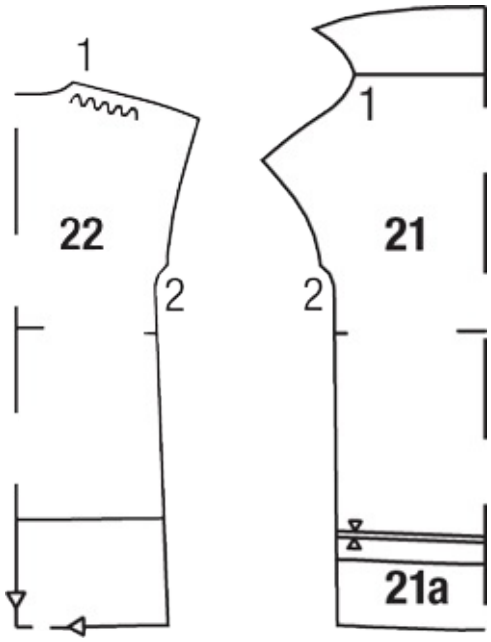
Size 34

Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42



Preparation, Cutting, and Construction

Follow the instructions for sewing the tunic.

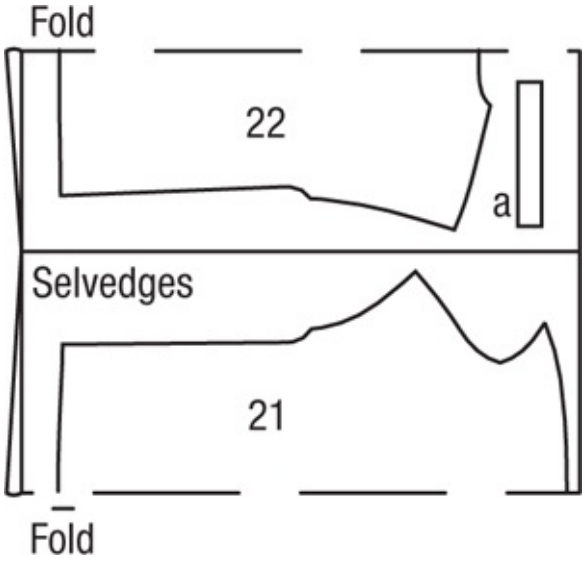
However, to make the top, trace pieces 21 and 22 from the pattern insert, following the lines for view A only.

Also, hem the top using the twin stretch needle.

Cutting Layouts

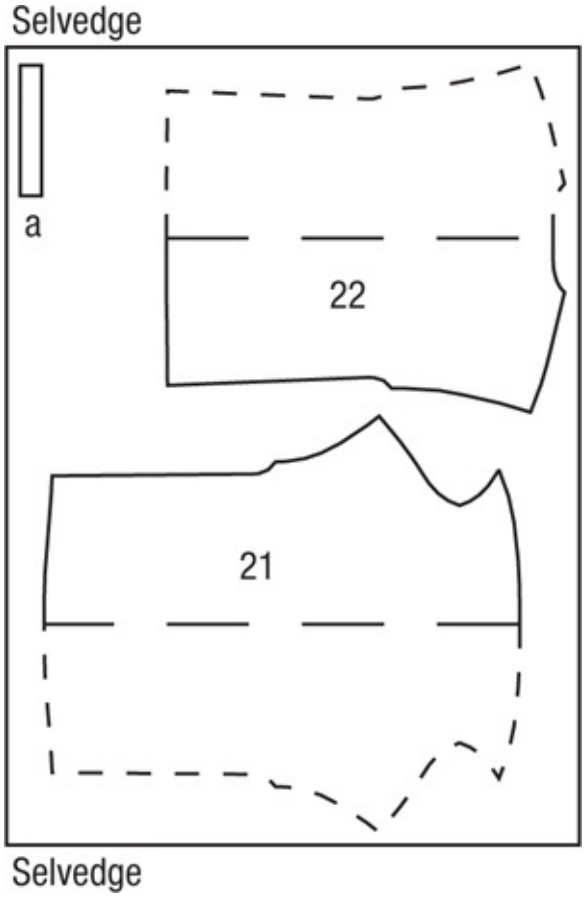
Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide

Sizes 34–40



Fold fabric as shown, right sides together.

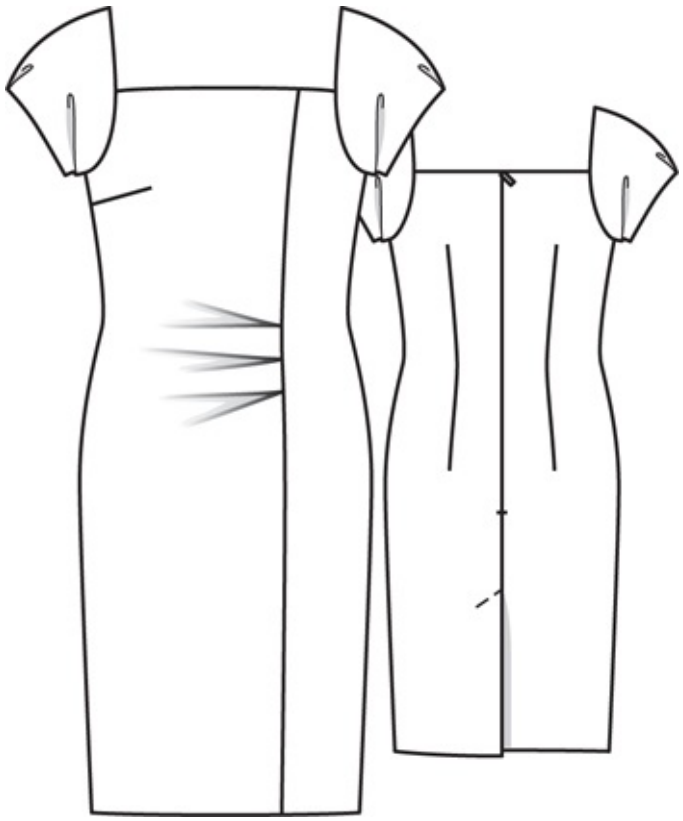
Size 42



Cut from a single layer of fabric, right side up. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.

Summer Origami Sheath

Summer dresses don’t have to be flowy, long, and colorful to give you a sense of cool freedom. A summer dress can also be elegant and fashion-forward—even black!—when it’s sewn from breathable, easy-care seersucker and given intriguing tucks and origami sleeves. The seersucker stripes are vertical in the fabric, but this dress is cut on the crosswise grain and tucked to create diagonal stripes in the bodice.



Skill Level: ●●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42

Finished length from the waist: 23¾" (60.5 cm)

Materials

Stretch seersucker, 58" (147.5 cm) wide, cut widthwise: size 34: 1⅝ yd (1.5 m); sizes 36, 38, 40: 1¾ yd (1.6 m); size 42: 1⅞ yd (1.7 m)

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Blue pattern line

Sheet G, pattern pieces 21, 21a, 25, and 26

Sheet H, pattern pieces 22 to 24

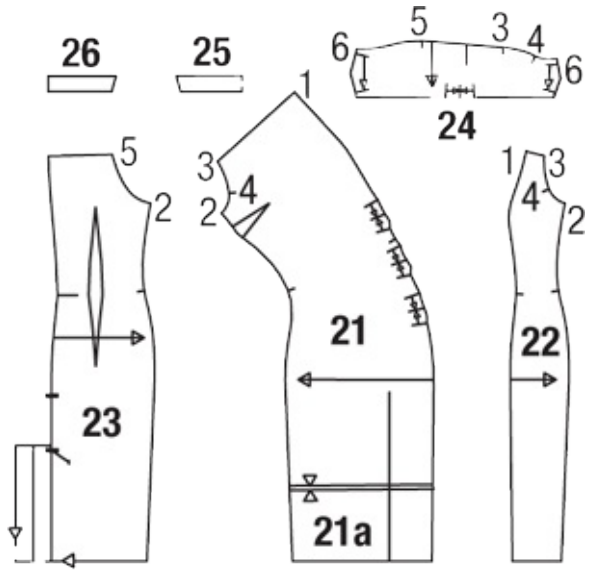
Size 34 ----------

Size 36 — — —

Size 38 — - - — - - —

Size 40 ---— ---—

Size 42 ~~~~~~~~~~



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you're making.

Trace pieces 21 to 26 from the pattern insert. Transfer all of the pattern markings, including seam numbers and darts.

The pleat arrows on pieces 21 and 24 are marked for size 34. For the other sizes, extend the pleat arrows to match the pattern lines for the dress you are marking.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 21 and 21a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Fold the fabric crosswise as shown in the cutting layout. Where the fabric is doubled, the right sides are together. Where the fabric is flat, the right side faces up. Following the cutting layout, pin the pattern pieces on the fabric. Place the asymmetric front pieces on the right side of the fabric with the printed side facing up.

Before you cut out the fabric pieces, note that the lines for the right and left edges of the back vent on piece 3 are different. Plan to cut them the same size initially from the double layer of fabric.

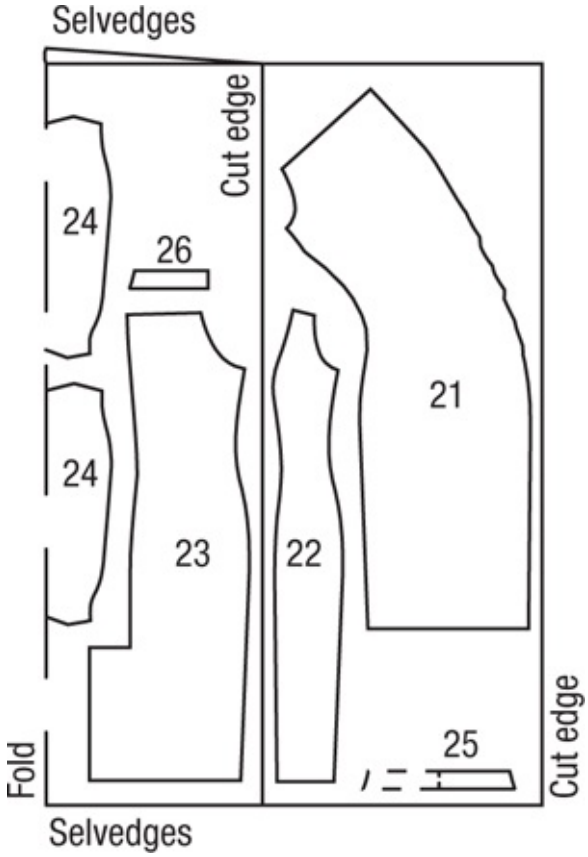
Cut from seersucker:
Piece 21, front–1
Piece 22, left side front–1
Piece 23, back–2
Piece 24, sleeve–2 on the fold
Piece 25, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 26, back neck facing–2

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the neck edges on the front, left side front, and back pieces. Also fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the outer half of the upper edge on each sleeve between seam numbers 3 and 5.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together.

Seersucker, 58" (147.5 cm) wide



Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

Stitch Bust Dart

1. With right sides together, fold, pin, and stitch the bust dart on the front piece. Press the dart down. (See instructions on sewing darts.)

Baste Pleats

2. On the front piece, fold the pleats on the right side of the fabric in the direction of the arrows. Hand-baste the pleats along the seam line.

Stitch Front Seam

3. Sew the front and left side front together, right sides facing. Press the seam allowances toward the front of the dress.

Stitch Back Darts

4. With right sides together, fold, pin, and stitch the darts on both of the back pieces. Press them toward the center.

Insert Invisible Zipper

5. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper to the opening edges on the back pieces. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.)

Sew Center Back Seam

6. Stitch the center back seam from the upper vent marking to the zipper. Press the seam allowances open.

Finish Vent

7. On the left back piece, press the vent facing to the inside of the garment. Turn the right underlap toward the left back and press the seam allowance of the right back to the wrong side above the vent. Taper as you go to avoid having to clip the seam allowance (Figure 1).

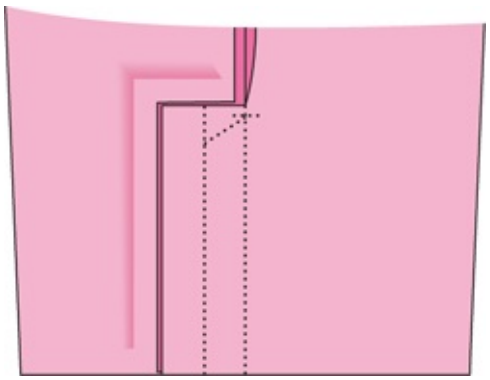


Figure 1

Trim the right facing to 2" (5 cm) wide. Topstitch the left back at the top of the vent at the angle marked on the pattern, catching the underlap (Figure 2).

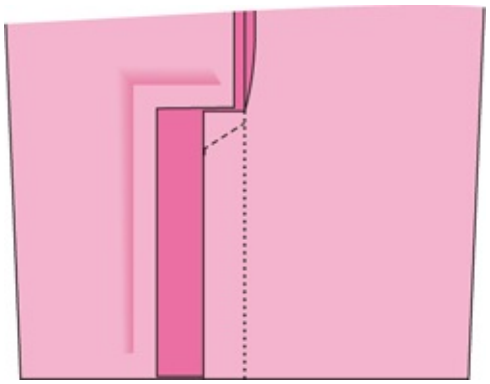


Figure 2

Stitch Side Seams

8. Stitch both side seams. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Press seam allowances open.

Sew Sleeves

9. Fold the sleeves on the fabric fold line, right sides together. Stitch the upper edges together between seam numbers 3 and 5. Clip the seam allowances at the seam ends. Turn the sleeves right side out and press the edges. Baste the open edges together.

10. Fold the pleats on the lower sleeve edges in the direction of the arrows. Edgestitch the pleats in place. Fold the side sleeve pleats in the direction of the arrows and baste (Figures 3, 4, and 5).

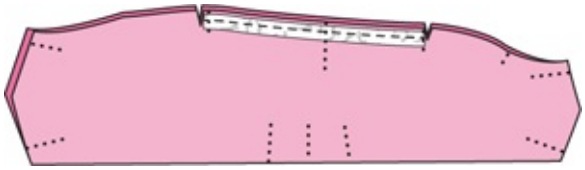


Figure 3

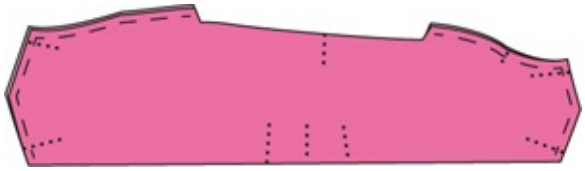


Figure 4

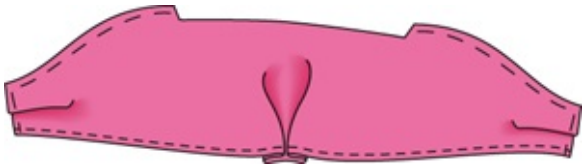


Figure 5

Stitch the sleeve seams. Press the seam allowances open. Turn the lower ends of the seam allowances under diagonally and handstitch in place at the sleeve edge.

Attach Sleeves

11. Pin the sleeves to the armhole edges. Stitch, starting at seam number 3 and ending at seam number 5.

The seam allowances of the upper front and back edges should extend past the seam. Press the seam allowances of the sleeve attachment seams toward the front and back pieces, approximately 2" (5 cm) long, beginning at the upper edge.

And Neck Facings

12. Pin the back neck facing to the upper back edge, right sides together. Turn the back neck facing back, 3⁄16" (5 mm) before the edge of the zipper opening, and pin to the upper edge.

13. Turn the seam allowances at the back opening edges to the outside and pin to the upper edge over the back neck facing. Stitch along the upper back edges. Turn the seam allowances on the opening edges to the

inside. Turn both facings up and understitch as close to the seam as possible. Turn both facings to the inside and sew to the zipper tapes.

14. Stitch the front neck facing to the upper edge of the dress front, right sides together. Turn the facing up and understitch close to the seam. Turn the facing to the inside, then turn the facing edges under and sew to the sleeve attachment seams.

Finish Facings

15. At the hem edge, unfold the back vent facings. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside, neaten the edges, and sew in place by hand. Turn the facings to the inside again and sew to the hem allowance.

RICO SERAFINO

Chapter 3

Casual

Casual dresses are the mainstay of our closets. Certainly, they're the garments that are the most comfortable to wear and most enjoyable to sew. A casual dress is open to myriad options—dress it up with heels, dress it down with flats. Add gorgeous accessories to change your look each time you wear a single dress. Casual dresses give you freedom to be creative! Experiment with new types of fabric, wild prints, and innovative embellishments.

In this chapter, you'll find dresses you'll return to, over and over. Make a simple shift uniquely yours by stamping it with textile paint. Sew a cover-up you can wear to the beach or out to dinner. Create your new favorite dress or perhaps a dozen of them for any occasion.

Hand-Stamped Tunic

This tunic dress with ¾-length puff sleeves and curved patch pockets offers a girlish charm. Personalize the look by stamping a pattern, such as these bunting flags, across the skirt. With gathers at the neck, pleated sleeves, and a loose, airy cut, the Hand-Stamped Tunic is a comfortable, easy look for spring and summer. Lightweight dress fabrics with some body, such as cotton batiste, are the ideal material for this garment.

For a completely different vibe, sew this dress from a patterned cotton. Experiment with large and small pattern repeats.

Skill Level: ●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

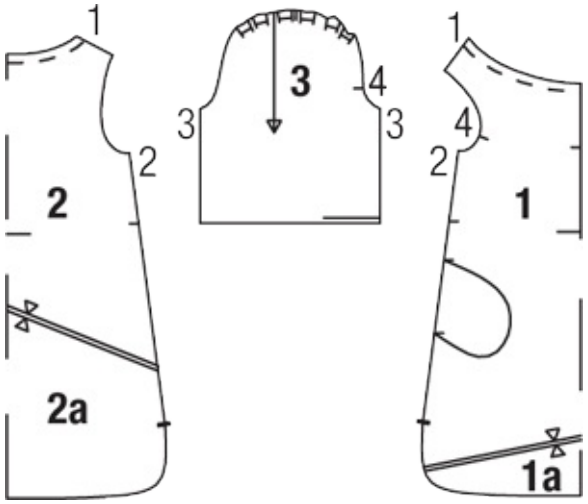
Finished back length: 38¾" (98.5 cm)

Materials

Cotton batiste, 54" (137 cm) wide: sizes 36, 38, 40, 42: 23/8 yd (2.2 m); size 44: 2½ yd (2.3 m)
Lightweight fusible interfacing
Notions: One ½" (1.3 cm) diameter button to cover; elastic, ⅜" (1 cm) wide: 28" (71 cm)

Pattern Overview

Green pattern line
Sheet E, pattern pieces 2 and 2a
Sheet F, pattern pieces 1, 1a, and 3
Size 34
Size 36
Size 38
Size 40
Size 42



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you're making.

Trace pieces 1 to 3 from the pattern insert, transferring all marked lines and pattern markings. Trace piece 3 a second time to make cutting out the sleeves easier. Trace the pocket piece drawn on piece 1 twice as two separate pattern pieces.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 1 and 1a and 2 and 2a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Lay out your fabric with right side up. Fold one selvedge, right sides together, to a width of 16" (40.5 cm). Place pieces 1 and 2 on the doubled fabric. Place piece 3 and the pocket pieces on the single layer of fabric as shown in the cutting layout. Pin the pieces in place.

Cut from cotton batiste:
Piece 1, front–1 on fold
Piece 1, pocket–2
Piece 2, back–1 on fold
Piece 3, sleeve–2

Mark and cut placket facing, binding strips, and button loop from cotton batiste:
Cut piece a, placket facing:
6¾" × 1⅝" (17 × 4 cm)

To cut the binding strips and button loop on the bias, fold the remaining fabric so that the selvedge forms a right angle (Figure 1). Lightly press the folded edge, which should be exactly on the bias. Unfold the fabric.
Draw and cut pieces b, c, and d along the crease (Figure 2):

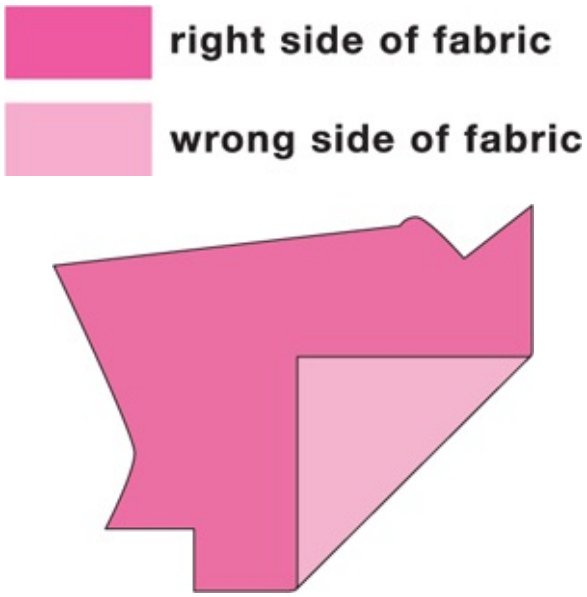


Figure 1

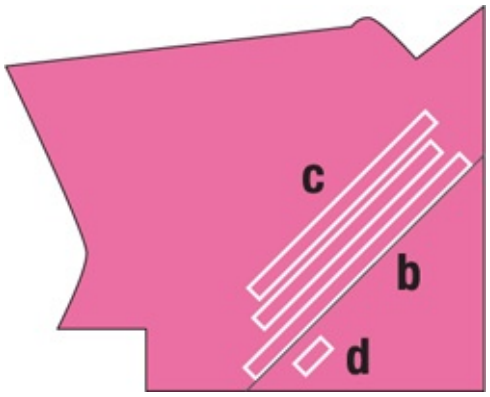


Figure 2

Piece b, binding strip for neck edge:

23 ¾" × 1¼" (60.5 × 3.2 cm)

Piece c, binding strips for pockets (cut 2):

19¾" × 1¼" (50 × 3.2 cm)

Piece d, strip for button loop:

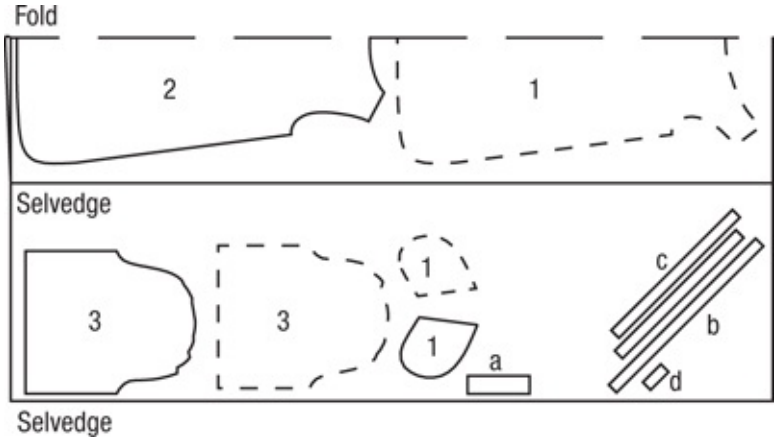
2⅞" × 1¼" (7 × 3.2 cm)

On the right side of the fabric, make hand-basted markings for the pleat lines on the sleeves, the notches on the pockets, and on the center front for the placket.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Place sleeve, pocket, and bias-cut pieces on the right side of the fabric with printed side facing up. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.

Cotton batiste, 54" (137 cm) wide



Construction

Create Placket

1. To face the placket, fuse a ¾" (2 cm) wide piece of interfacing to the wrong side of the fabric over the slit marked on piece 1. Pin piece a, the placket facing, over the basted placket marking, right sides together (Figure 3).

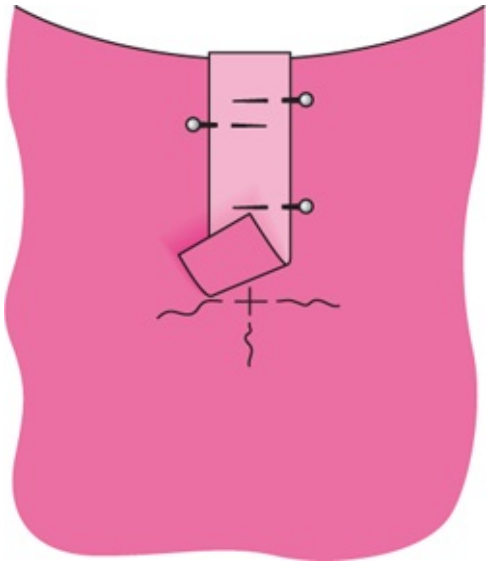


Figure 3

2. Working from the inside, stitch a scant ⅛" (3 mm) on either side of the basted placket slit line and horizontally below the placket. Carefully cut the slit along the basted line, between the stitched lines, and then clip diagonally into the corners close to the stitching (Figure 4).

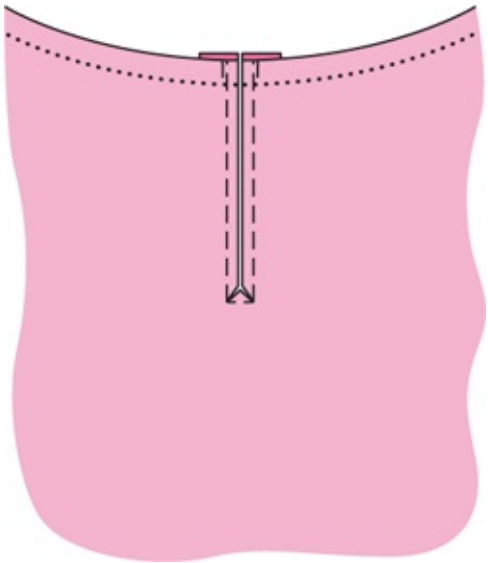


Figure 4

3. Pull the facing to the inside and press the edges. Turn facing edges under ¼" (6 mm) and pin in place (Figure 5). Topstitch ¼" (6 mm) from the placket edges.

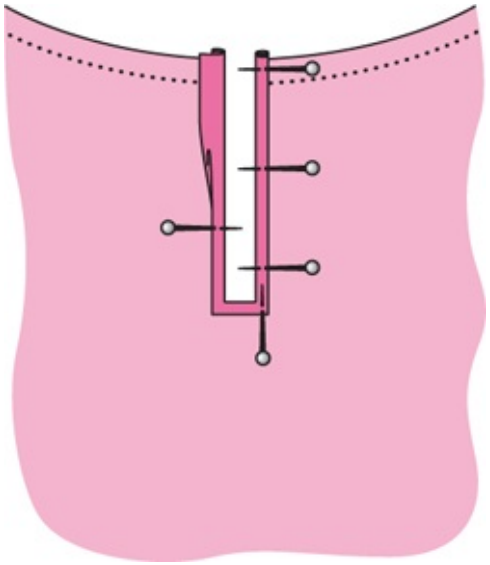


Figure 5

Make Button Loop

4. Make the button loop by folding piece d lengthwise in half, right sides together. Stitch ⅛" (3 mm) from the fold edge (Figure 6). Leave the threads long at one end to use for turning the fabric tube right side out. Trim the seam allowances close to the stitching.

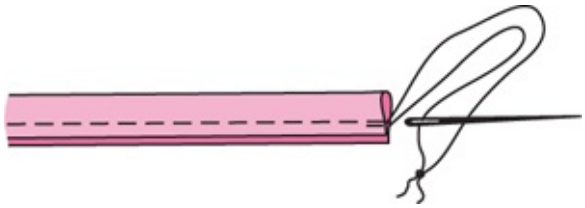


Figure 6

Thread the ends of the thread through a darning needle and knot firmly. Push the needle through the tube, eye end first, to turn the tube right side out (Figure 7). Set aside.

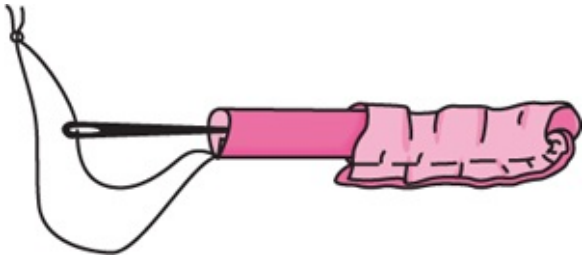


Figure 7

Sew Shoulder Seams

5. Lay the front piece on the back piece, right sides together, and pin the shoulder seams. Stitch, beginning and ending exactly at the marked neck edge (Figure 8).

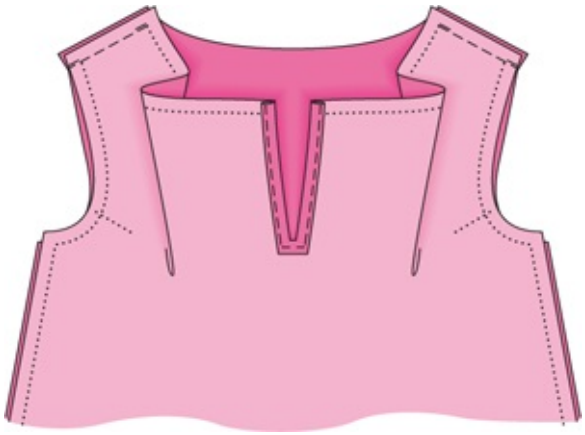


Figure 8

Trim the seam allowances to ⅜" (1 cm) wide. Neaten the edges of the seam allowances together and press them toward the back. Trim the seam allowance ends at the neck edge.

Gather Neckline

6. Using the longest stitch setting on your machine, baste ¼" (6 mm) from the edge on both the front and back pieces. Still using the longest stitch setting, stitch again ⅛" (3 mm) inside the seam allowance from the first line of stitching. Hold the bobbin threads firmly together and gather the edges along the threads until the front edge is:

Size 36: 6" (15 cm) long

Sizes 38, 40: 6⅜" (16 cm) long

Sizes 42, 44: 6¾" (17 cm) long

7. Gather the edges along the threads until the back edge length is:

Size 36: 8¾" (22 cm)

Size 38: 9" (23 cm)

Size 40: 9⅛" (23 cm)

Size 42: 9¼" (23.5 cm)

Size 44: 9½" (24 cm)

Knot the threads. Distribute the fullness evenly across the gathers (Figure 9).

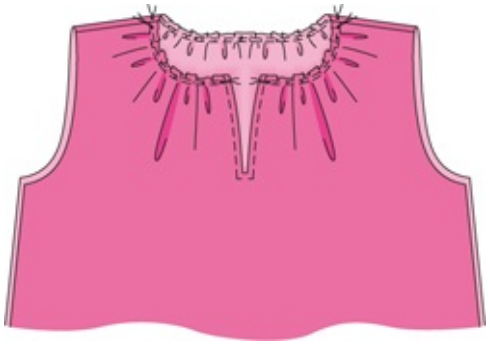


Figure 9

Bind Neck Edge

8. Fold piece b, the bias strip for the neck binding, in half, wrong sides together. Press the fold edge, then unfold. Fold the long edges in to the crease, right-side up, and press (Figure 10).

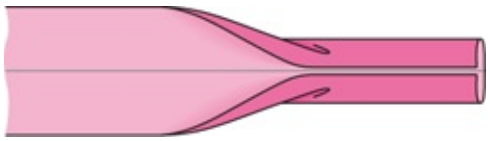


Figure 10

9. Unfold one edge of the bias strip again and pin to the neck edge, with the right side of the strip facing the wrong side of the front piece. The ends of the bias strip should extend past the edges of the placket. Stitch the strip in place along the pressed fold, ¼" (6 mm) from the edge (Figure 11).

Figure 11

10. Trim the ends of the bias strip ¼" (6 mm) from the placket slit edges (Figure 12). Turn the strip so it faces up and turn the ends under (Figure 13). Fold the bias strip over the neck edge, turn the raw edge under, and pin in place over the attachment seam.

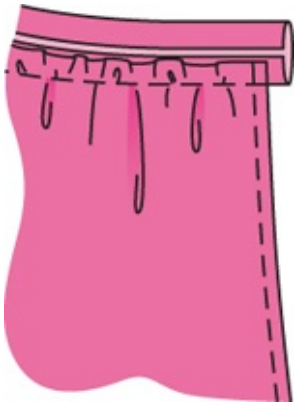


Figure 12

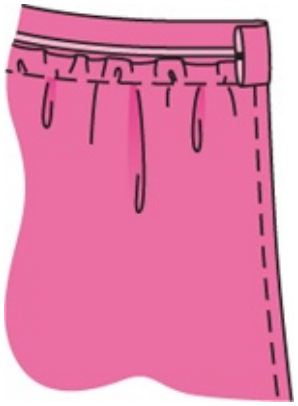


Figure 13

11. Form the fabric tube (from Step 4) into a loop and slide it into the end of the neck binding on the right edge of the opening. Make sure the size of the loop matches the size of your button. Edgestitch the binding in place and stitch the front ends closed (Figure 14).

Figure 14

Sew Side Seams

12. Lay the front piece on the back piece, right sides together. Pin the side seams from the top down to the side slit mark, matching the seam lines. Stitch the seams (Figure 15).

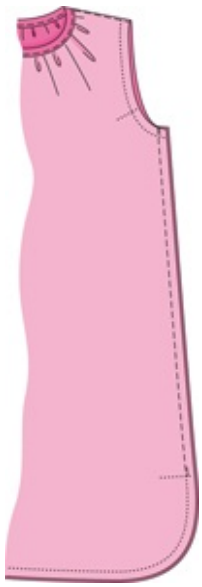


Figure 15

Press the seam allowances open and neaten the edges of the seam allowance, from the upper to the lower end of each seam.

Finish Slit Edges

13. Press the seam allowances on the hem and the edges of the side slits to the inside. Turn the seam allowances under to half of their width and press. Working from the outside of the dress, topstitch ¼" (6 mm) from the hem and slit edges and at the upper end of the slit. Stitch at a right angle to the seam (Figure 16).

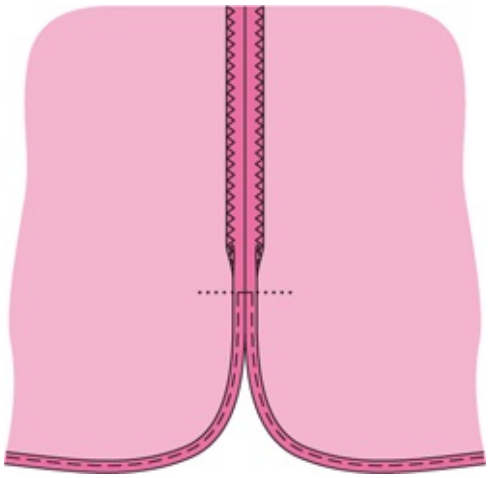


Figure 16

Sew Sleeves

14. Working from the right side of the sleeve, lay the pleats in the direction of the arrows and pin them in place (Figure 17).

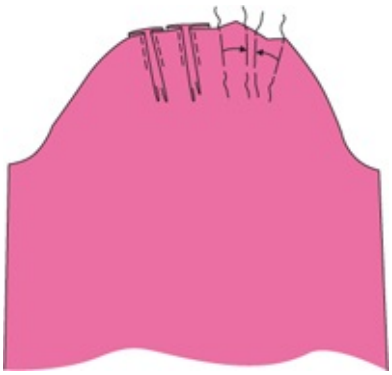


Figure 17

Fold the sleeve lengthwise, right sides together. Pin the sleeve edges together and stitch the seam (Figure 18). Press the seam open and finish the edges of the seam allowance. Turn the sleeve right side out.

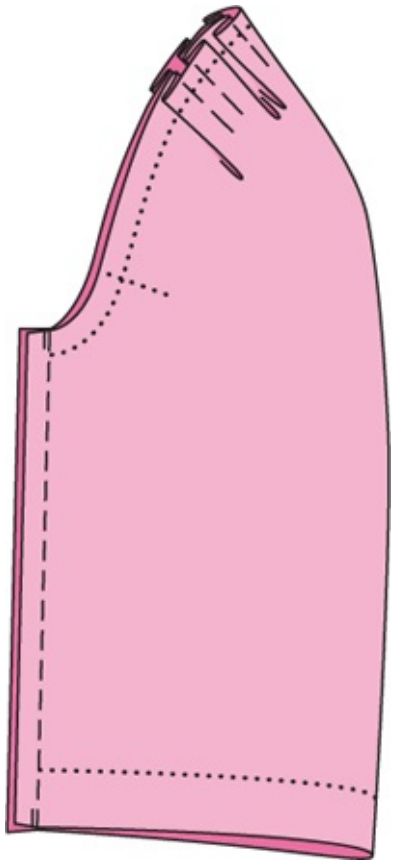


Figure 18

Repeat with the second sleeve.

Create Sleeve Casings

15. Press the hemallowance on one sleeve to the wrong side, then turn the edge of the hem under ⅝" (1.5 cm) and pin. Edgestitch the hem in place, creating a casing for the elastic. Leave ¾" (2 cm) open to insert the elastic into the casing.

Repeat with the second sleeve.

16. Cut two lengths of elastic, each:

Size 36: 11⅞" (30 cm) long

Size 38: 12¼" (31 cm) long

Size 40: 12¾" (32 cm) long

Size 42: 13" (33 cm) long

Size 44: 13½" (34 cm) long

17. Pull each elastic length through the sleeve casings. Sew the ends of the elastic together, ⅜" (1 cm) from the end. Sew the open section of the hem closed (Figure 19).

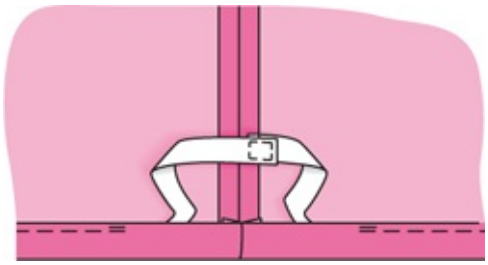


Figure 19

Attach Sleeves

18. Pin one sleeve to the lower section of an armhole, right sides together, matching the sleeve seam, side seam, notch, and pattern mark 4 (Figure 20).

Figure 20

Working from the inside, pin the shoulder mark on the sleeve cap to the shoulder seam. Then pin the rest of the sleeve cap in place. Baste the sleeve to the armhole edge (Figure 21).

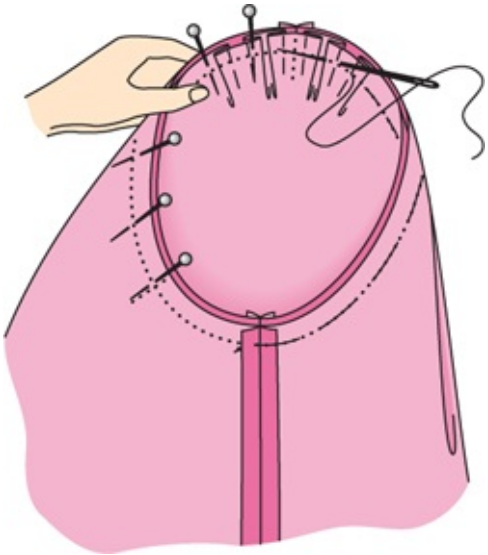


Figure 21

Repeat with the second sleeve.

19. Working from the sleeve side, stitch the sleeves to the armhole edges, starting at the seam (Figure 22). Stitch close to the basting stitches so that they can be removed easily.

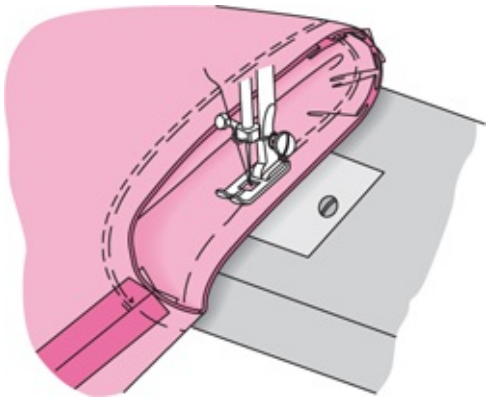


Figure 22

At each sleeve attachment seam, neaten the edges of the seam allowances and turn them toward the sleeve. Remove the basting stitches.

Sew Pockets

20. Trim away the seam allowances along the curved edges of one pocket. Bind these edges with the pocket binding strip (piece c), following Steps 8 to 11, but don’t turn the strip ends under. Press the seam allowances on the pocket opening to the wrong side. Turn the edge under. Topstitch on the right side of the fabric ¼" (6 mm) from the edge (Figure 23).

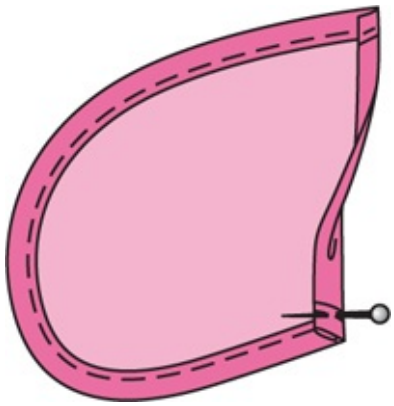


Figure 23

Repeat with the second pocket.

21. Pin each pocket to the front piece between the notches. The pocket opening should meet the side seam (Figure 24). Sew the pocket in place, exactly along the stitching line of the binding.

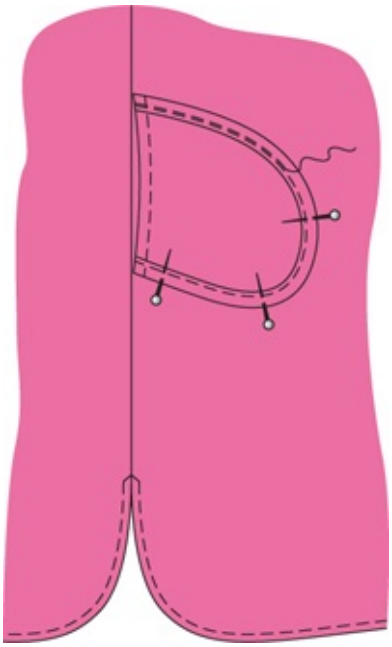


Figure 24

Finish Dress

22. Cover the button with the dress fabric. Sew the button to the left edge of the placket at the neck edge.

23. Print the dress with a handmade stamp and textile paint. See "Hand Stamp a Charming Pattern" for detailed instructions.

Hand Stamp a Charming Pattern

To embellish the Hand-Stamped Tunic in a fun and personal way—or to customize any garment—stamp contrasting textile paint onto your dress with a handmade rubber stamp.

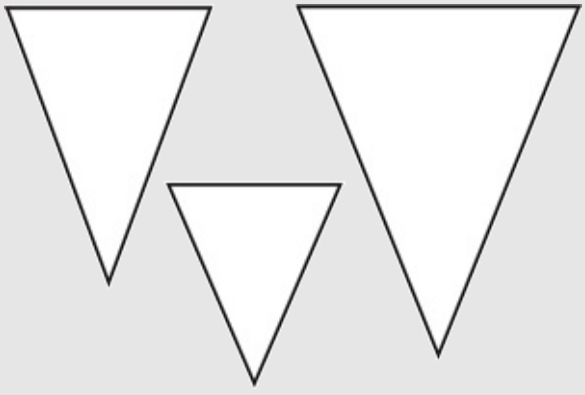
If you want your unique design to cover the pockets, stamp the dress after you've sewn it. Alternatively, you can stamp the fabric when it's flat, before you've sewn it, and extend the design all the way into the seam allowance.

You can use our triangle shapes below to create a whimsical bunting across your tunic or experiment with different simple shapes—stars, diamonds, or even leaves or flowers would be sweet.

Materials

- Sheet of rubber-stamp material large enough to fit your design and approximately ⅜" (1 cm) thick
- Acrylic block to fit your stamp design
- Scissors or a craft knife
- Tracing paper
- Soft-leaded pencil
- Permanent marker
- Double-sided adhesive tape
- Permanent fabric paint
- Small sponge
- Heavy cardboard

Templates



Make the Stamp

1. Trace your design, either using the triangular flag shape (below left) or your own drawing, onto tracing paper. If you're drawing your own shape, remember to keep it simple.

2. Place the tracing paper over the rubber-stamp material, pencil lines down, and rub over your tracing. This will transfer a mirror image of your design to the sheet of rubber. Cut the rubber sheet down to fit the size of your design.

3. Using the permanent marker, draw over your design. If you're using the triangular flag shape, color it in. If you've drawn a different shape, fill in the outlines and any part of the shape that makes up the stamp.

4. Cut out your stamp. If you're making the flag, cut away the rubber from the outside of the triangle. If you're making a different design, carefully cut away any rubber that is not part of the image you want to make. Remember, the raised parts of the rubber become your stamp.

5. Adhere the stamp to the acrylic block with the double-sided adhesive tape.

Print Your Tunic

6. Make sure the garment (or fabric) has been washed and dried. Slide a piece of heavy cardboard between the layers of the dress. It will catch any fabric paint that bleeds through the fabric.

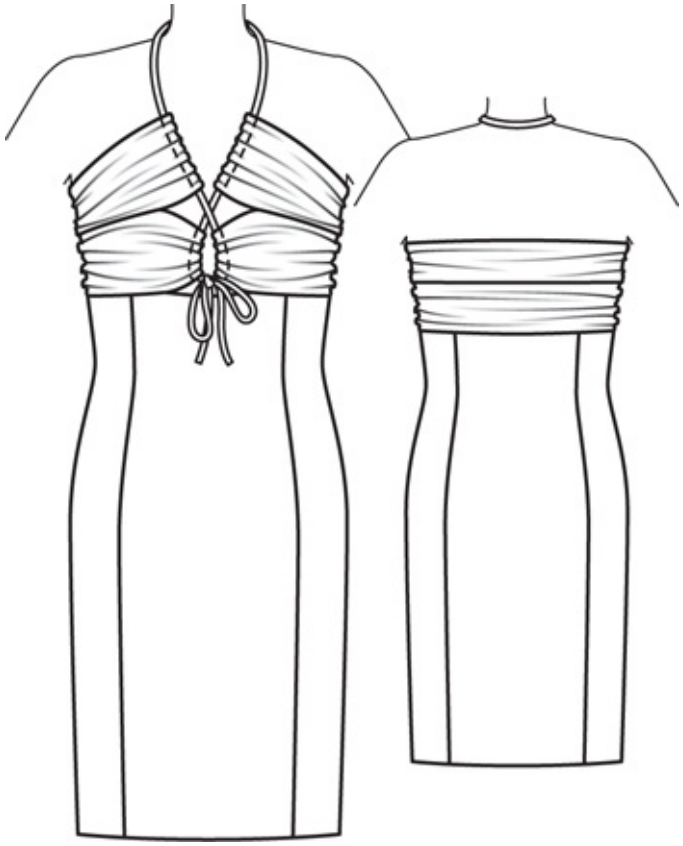
7. Use the small sponge to apply the fabric paint to the raised surface of the rubber stamp. Test your stamp and experiment with amounts of paint on scraps of your dress fabric first.

Print the design on your tunic in any pattern you like, such as the bunting stamped across the bottom of our tunic.

8. Follow the fabric paint manufacturer's instructions to set the paint.

Summer Tie-Dye Lace-Up Dress

Cool, sexy, and easy to sew, the Summer Tie-Dye Lace-Up Dress is the perfect dress for beginner sewists—and ideal for any summer day, whether you're headed to the beach, meeting for lunch in the city, or playing in the backyard with your kids. It features a halter-top neckline that shows a hint of skin between the bandeaus in the bodice. A double layer of lightweight jersey fabric is the ideal material for this dress.



Instead of making a tie band from your dress fabric, try a coordinating ready-made ribbon or even a band of satin cord.

Skill Level: ●

Sizes

BurdaStyle petite sizes 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

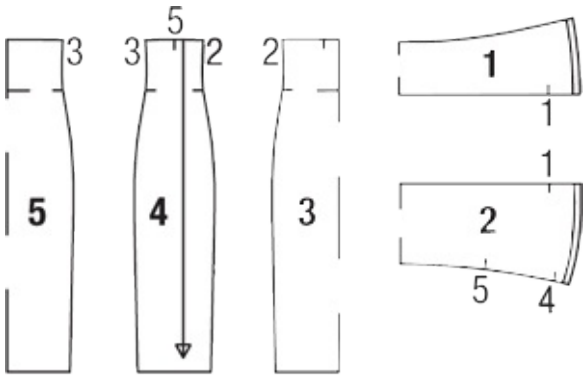
Finished length from the waist: 23" (58.5 cm)

Materials

Lightweight jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 17, 18: 1⅞ yd (1.7 m); sizes 19, 20, 21: 2⅝ yd (2.4 m)
Note: Two layers of jersey are used to make this dress.
Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; ballpoint or stretch needle

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line
Sheet E, pattern pieces 2, 4, and 5
Sheet F, pattern pieces 1 and 3
Size 17
Size 18
Size 19
Size 20
Size 21



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 1 to 5 from the pattern insert, transferring all pattern lines and markings.

Trace pattern pieces 1, 2, and 4 a second time to make it easier to lay out and cut the fabric pieces.

Copy the stitch line for the neckline drawstring casing from piece 2 for size 17. For sizes 18 to 21, mark the stitching line at the same width.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold fabric in half lengthwise, right sides together. Lay all of the pattern pieces on the doubled fabric according to the cutting layouts. Pin them in place.

Cut from lightweight jersey:
Piece 1, upper front and back–2 on the fold
Piece 2, lower front and back–2 on the fold
Piece 3, front skirt panel–2 on the fold
Piece 4, side skirt panel–4
Piece 5, back skirt panel–2 on the fold

Mark on lightweight jersey and cut the drawstring band (piece a):
40" × 1⅝" (101.5 × 4 cm)

Depending on the width of your fabric and the size you're making, you may need to piece the drawstring band.

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the upper edge of one piece 1 (Figure 1).

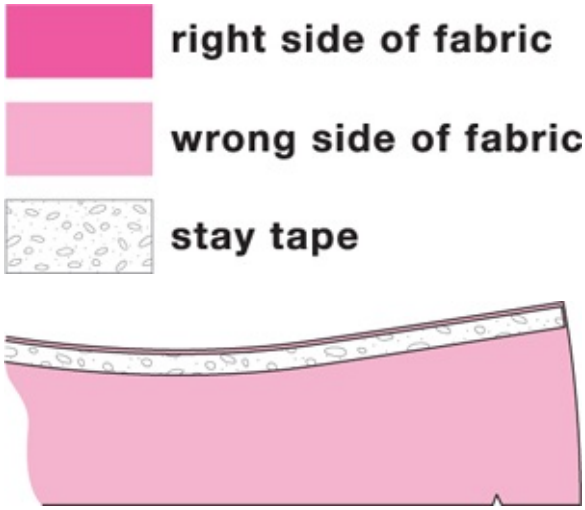


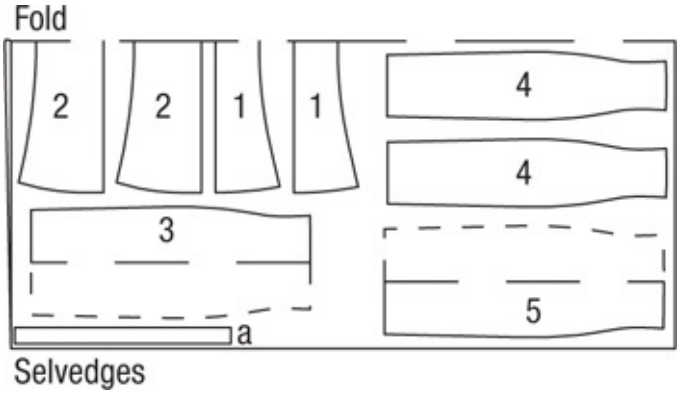
Figure 1

Cutting Layouts

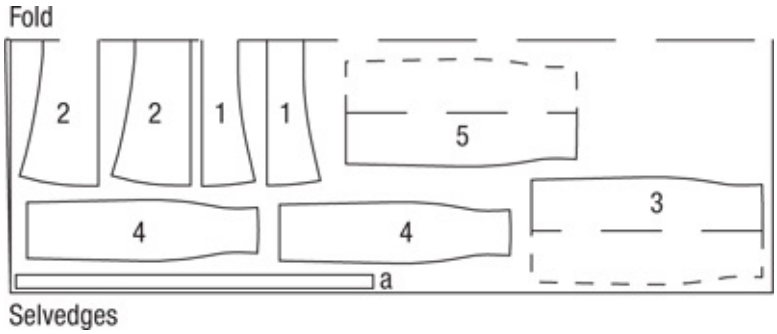
Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide

Petite sizes 17, 18



Petite sizes 19, 20, 21



Construction

Face Upper Front and Back Pieces

1. Pin both upper front and back pieces right sides together. Stitch the front edges together using a seam allowance of ⅝" (1 cm). Stitch the upper edges together, beginning and ending ⅝" (1.5 cm) from the front edge. Stitch the lower edges together, beginning at the notch and ending ⅝" (1.5 cm) from the front edges. Clip the seam allowances at the notch (Figure 2).

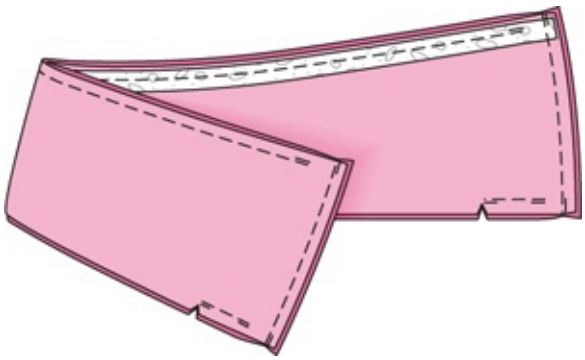


Figure 2

2. Turn the pieces right side out and press. Baste the open edges together (Figure 3).

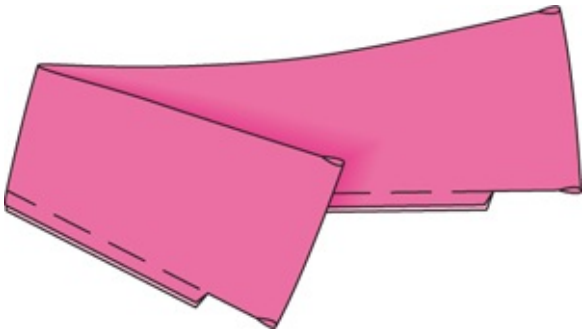


Figure 3

Face Lower Front and Back Pieces

3. Pin both lower front and back pieces right sides together. Stitch the front edges together ⅜" (1 cm) from the edge. Stitch together along both the upper and lower edges, beginning at the notch at seams 1 and 4 and ending ⅝" (1.5 cm) from the front edge. Clip seam allowances at the notches (Figure 4).

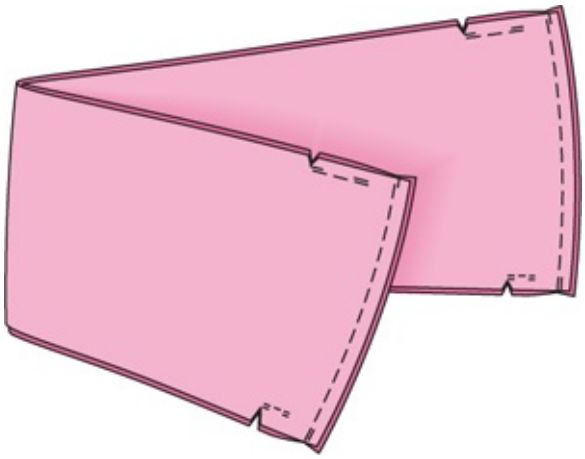


Figure 4

4. Turn the piece right side out and press. Baste open edges together (Figure 5).

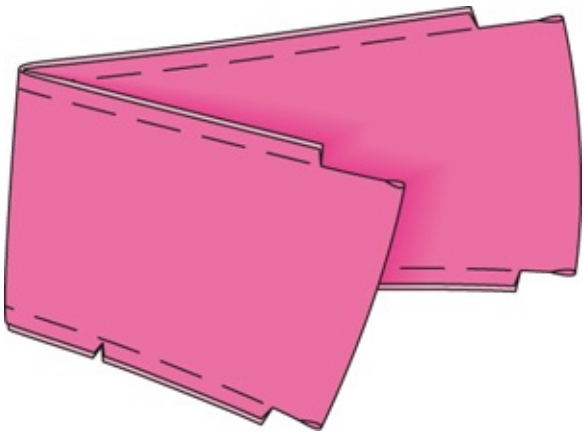


Figure 5

Create Drawstring Casing

5. Topstitch ⅝" (1.5 cm) from the front edge of both the upper front and back piece and lower front and back piece.

Attach Upper and Lower Pieces

6. To make the bodice, stitch the upper front and back piece and the lower front and back piece together. Lay the lower edge of the upper piece on the upper edge of the lower piece and pin edges together at seam 1. Stitch these edges together with a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance. Neaten the seam allowances and press down (Figure 6).

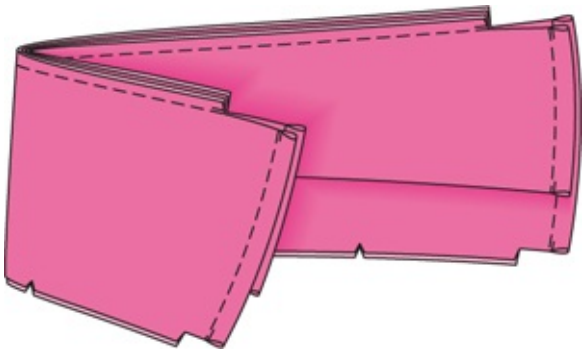


Figure 6

Assemble Skirt

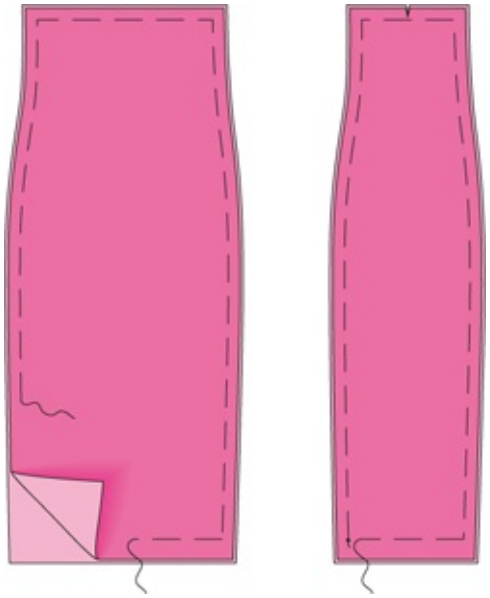
7. Lay both front skirt panel pieces right sides together and pin the upper edges between the notches at seam 4. Stitch together between the notches only with a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance. Clip the seam allowances at the notches, close to the ends of the seam (Figure 7).

Figure 7

8. Turn the front skirt panel so that the wrong sides are facing, then baste the edges together all the way around. Press the seamed upper edge only (Figure 8).

Figure 8

9. Pair the four side skirt panel pieces and lay them together, wrong sides facing. Make sure the notches line up. Baste the edges together all the way around. Also pair the two back skirt panel pieces and lay them wrong sides together. Baste the edges together all the way around (Figures 9 and 10).



Figures 9 and 10

10. Pin the side skirt panels to the side edges of the front skirt panel at seam 2. Then stitch the section seams with a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance.

11. Pin the side skirt panels to the back skirt panel at seam 3. Stitch with a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance.

Neaten the edges of the seam allowances, then press them toward the side skirt panels (Figure 11).

Figure 11

Sew Bodice to Skirt

12. Pin the upper front and back and lower front and back sections to the top skirt edge, right sides together. Make sure that notches 4 and 5 match. Stitch with a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance. Neaten the seam allowances and press upward (Figure 12).

Figure 12

Finish Dress

13. Neaten the edge of the hem allowance on the skirt. Press a 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside and sew in place loosely by hand.

14. For sizes 17 and 18, stitch the drawstring band pieces together. For all sizes, fold the band in half lengthwise, right sides together. Stitch ⅜" (1 cm) from the fold edge.

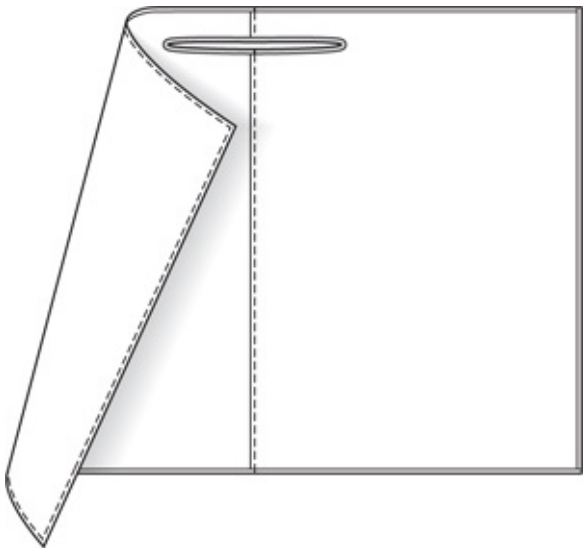
To turn right side out, leave the threads at one end long enough to thread into a darning needle and knot. Push the needle through the fabric tube with the eye facing forward.

15. To insert the drawstring, thread each end of the band down through the casings on the bodice. Tie in a bow at the lower edge of the bodice (Figure 13).

Figure 13

Sunshine Bangle Wrap Dress

This versatile wrap dress can be sewn quickly and worn in three different ways, thanks to the clever use of the bangle bracelet in the middle. Depending on how you wrap it, you can throw the Sunshine Bangle Wrap Dress on over your bikini at the beach or turn it into a daring dress for a night out on the town. Lightweight jersey fabrics with a soft drape work best for this dress.



Skill Level: ●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Materials

Lightweight silk jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 2⅜ yd (2.2 m)
Notions: 1 bangle bracelet: 2¾" (7 cm) in diameter; ballpoint or stretch needle; elastic, ⅜" (1 cm) wide: size 34: ⅞ yd (0.8 m); sizes 36, 38, 40, 42: 1 yd (0.9 m); size 44: 11/8 yd (1 m)

Preparation and Cutting

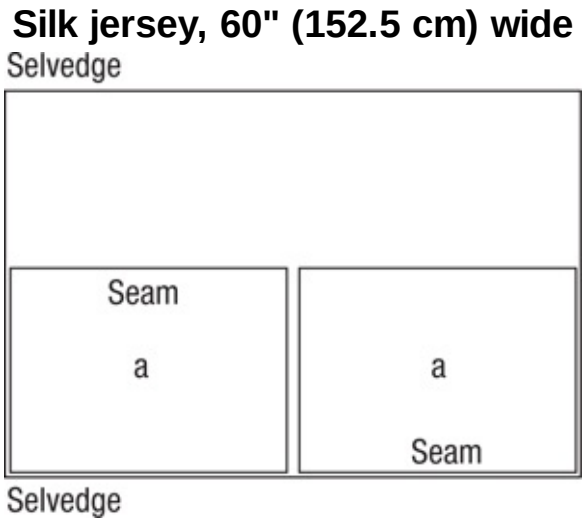
Lay the fabric out flat in a single layer, wrong side facing up.
Mark and cut from lightweight silk jersey two equal rectangles (piece a), one for the front of the dress and one for the back:

Size 34: 28¾" × 40¾" (73 × 103.5 cm)
Size 36: 30½" × 40¾" (77.5 × 103.5 cm)
Size 38: 32" × 40¾" (81 × 103.5 cm)
Size 40: 33½" × 40¾" (85 × 103.5 cm)
Size 42: 36" × 40¾" (91.5 × 103.5 cm)
Size 44: 36¾" × 40¾" (93.5 × 103.5 cm)

Cut out the two dress pieces.

Cutting Layout

Cut from a single layer of fabric, wrong side facing up.



Construction

Sew Center Seam

1. Lay the front and back together, right sides together. On one side, sew the 40¾" (103.5 cm) long edges together, stitching ¼" (6 mm) from the edge. Neaten the seam allowances and press to one side.

2. Press the outer edges to the wrong side of the fabric by ⅝" (1.5 cm) and stitch.

Create Neck Opening

3. Fold the front and back pieces along the center seam, right sides together and aligning the finished edges.

To make the neck opening, mark a horizontal slit across the fold 3¼" (8 cm) below the upper edge. The length of this slit should be:

Size 34: 7¼" (18.5 cm)

Size 36: 7¾" (19.5 cm)

Size 38: 8¼" (21 cm)

Size 40: 8⅝" (22 cm)

Size 42: 9" (23 cm)

Size 44: 9¼" (23.5 cm)

4. Slash the double layer of fabric as marked, then unfold the pieces.

Add Elastic

5. Pin the elastic to the wrong side of the cut fabric edges, spreading the ends of the slit apart. Overlap the elastic ends by approximately ⅜" (1 cm) and trim away the remainder.

6. Stitch the elastic in place with a small zigzag stitch. Turn the elastic to the inside. Stitch the inside edge of the elastic in place using a small zigzag stitch.

How to Wear the Sunshine Bangle Wrap Dress

The Sunshine Bangle Wrap Dress can be worn three different ways, depending on how you slide it through the bangle bracelet and if you tie it in the front or the back.

In variation one (Figures 1 and 2), the seam is in the back. Slip both of your arms through the neck edge opening and position the dress so that the narrow upper edge lies behind your neck. Hold both upper ends of the fabric piece forward and together. Slip the bangle over these ends until it rests just below your bust, as in the opening photo. Wrap each end behind you and knot together across your back.

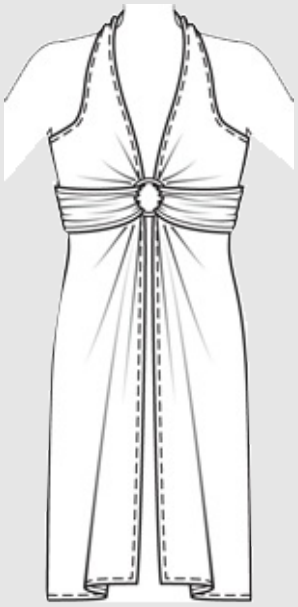


Figure 1

Figure 2

In variation two (Figures 3 and 4), the seam is in the front. Slip the neck edge opening over your head and position the dress so that the narrow upper edge lies behind your neck. Grasp both of the upper ends of the fabric piece behind your back and slip the bangle over them. Wrap each end forward and knot the ends together over your waist.

Figure 3

Figure 4

In variation three (Figures 5 and 6), the seam is in the back. Slip both of your arms through the neck edge opening and position the dress so that the narrow upper edge lies behind your neck. Hold both upper ends of the fabric piece forward and together. Slip the bangle over these ends and place it even with your bust. Cross one end of the fabric piece over the other. Lay the ends over your bust and tie them together across your back.

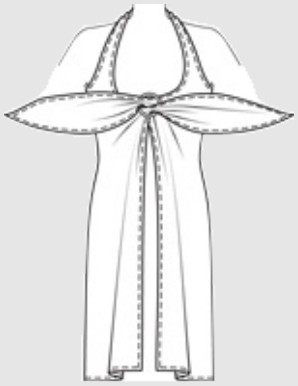


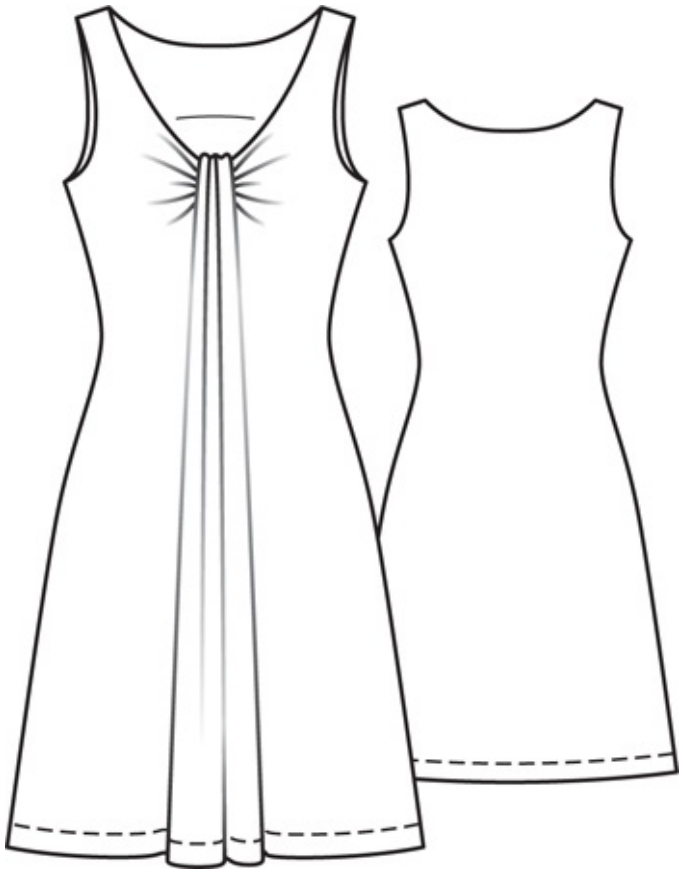
Figure 5

Figure 6

TIP: Each variation of this dress results in an open slit in the skirt. Make it to match something fun to wear underneath, perhaps a coordinating bikini bottom.

Urban Ikat Sleeveless Dress

The breezy Urban Ikat Sleeveless Dress is bold, thanks to a large, colorful print, yet casually refined. It flows from a clever below-the-bust drape and hits right above the knees, a style that flatters every figure. This dress must be made from a lightweight jersey, either printed or solid.



Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 23¾" (60.5 cm)

Materials

Lightweight jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 2⅝ yd (2.4 m)

Fusible knit tricot interfacing

Notions: Ballpoint or stretch needle; twin stretch needle

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line

Sheet E, pattern piece 21

Sheet F, pattern pieces 21a and 22 to 24

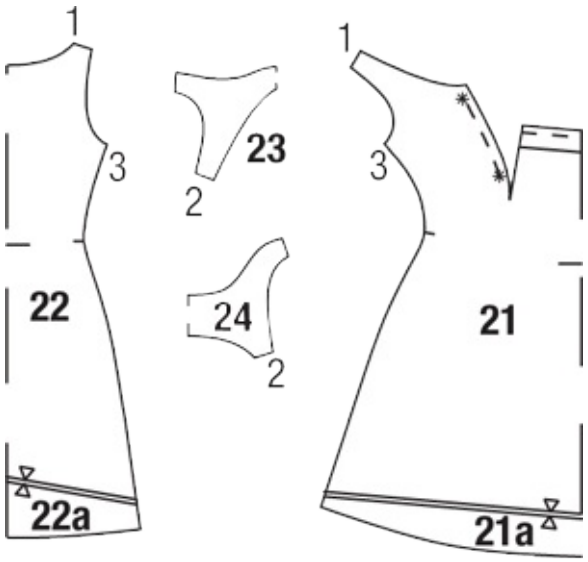
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 21 to 24 from the pattern insert, transferring all pattern lines and markings.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 21 and 21a and 22 and 22a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Fold the dress fabric and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place. Cut one section of pattern pieces first, then cut the second portion on the remaining section of jersey.

Cut from jersey:
Piece 21, front–1 on the fold
Piece 22, back–1 on the fold
Piece 23, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 24, back neck facing–1 on the fold

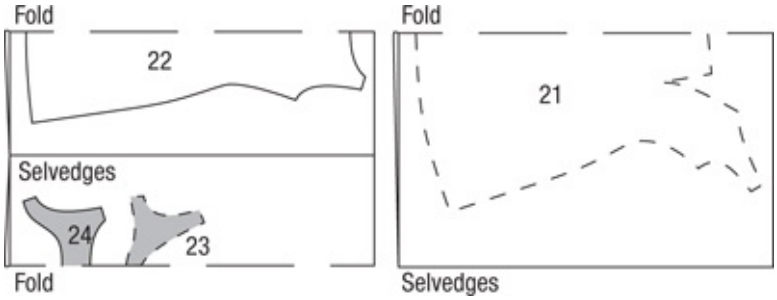
Cut from interfacing:
Piece 23, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 24, back neck facing–1 on the fold

Fuse interfacing pieces to the corresponding dress pieces.

Cutting Layouts

Fold the fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down.

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

Gather and Stitch Darts

1. Cut the darts marked on the front along the center line, ending 1⅝" (4 cm) before the pointed end.

2. Sew a line of long machine stitches along the side edges of the darts, between the asterisks marked on the pattern. Gather the sides of the darts until the length is:

Size 36: 2¼" (5.5 cm)

Size 38: 2⅜" (6 cm)

Size 40: 2⅝" (6.5 cm)

Size 42: 2¾" (7 cm)

Size 44: 3" (7.5 cm)

Tie off the thread ends to secure the gathered length.

3. Pin the darts so that the marked neck edge meets the center front fold line. Stitch the darts below the fold line. Press the darts open, pressing the points of the dart flat.

4. Fold the front down the center, wrong sides together. Pin the dart edges together, then stitch along the dart line from the fold line to the end of the gathering.

Baste Front Edges

5. Unfold the front. Pin the center of the front to the dart seam. Baste by hand the upper front edges together, then turn them down on the fold line and pin.

Add Neck Facings

6. Pin the front neck facing to the front piece, right sides together. Pin the back neck facing to the back, right sides together. Stitch along the neck and armhole edges, beginning and ending ¾" (2 cm) below each shoulder seam line. Trim the seam allowances and clip the curves close to the stitches.

7. On the front only, turn the front neck facing to the inside. Slide the front shoulder edges between the as-yet-unturned back shoulder edges—the right fabric sides for the front and back of the facings are together.

Sew Shoulder Seams

8. Stitch the shoulder seams on the dress and on the facing. Pull the front, which lies inside, and the front neck facing up and out just enough to press the seams open. This will be easier if you slip the handle of a wooden spoon under the seams (Figure 1).

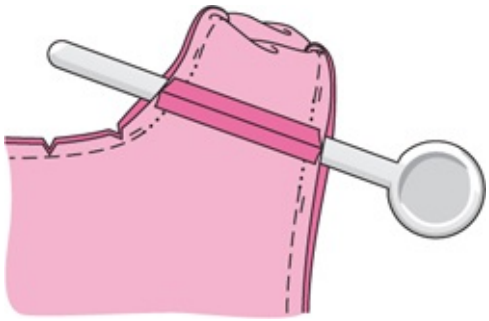


Figure 1

Finish Neck Edges

9. Stitch the remaining open neck edges closed. Pull the front down out of the back shoulder edges, which will cause the back neck facing to turn itself to the inside. Press the neck edges.

Sew Side Seams

10. At the armhole edges, turn the facings up again. Stitch the side seams. Turn the facings back to the inside, then sew the inside facing edge to the side seams.

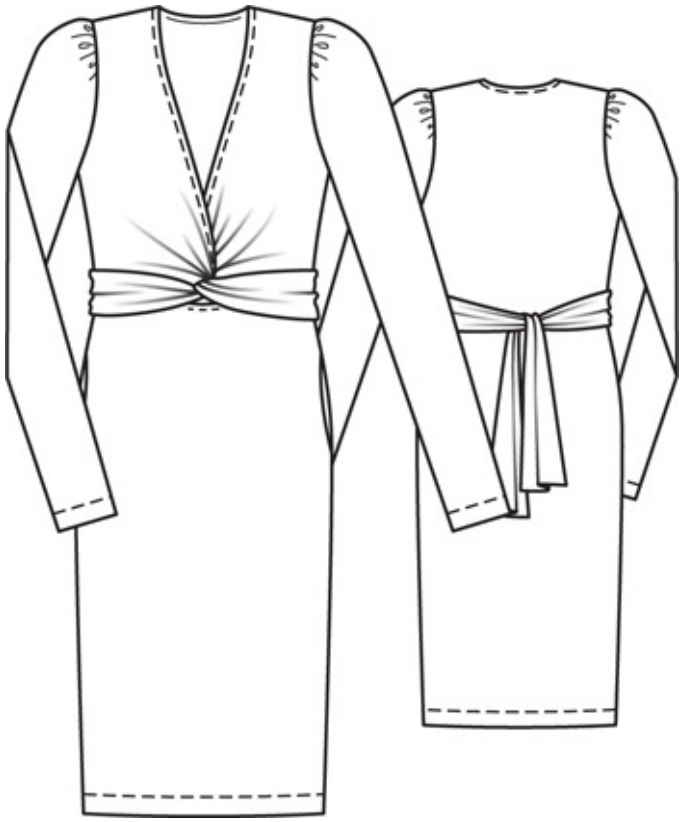
11. Turn the turned-down end up again. Gather the upper edge to a length of 1⅝" (4 cm). Turn the gathered edge to the inside at the fold line and sew to the facing.

Finish Hem

12. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside of the dress. Working from the outside of the garment, use a twin stretch needle to stitch the hem 1" (2.5 cm) from the lower edge.

The Jersey Plunge V-Neck Dress

This figure-hugging design can be sewn up as either casual or chic, depending on the print you choose. With a pencil skirt, elongated sleeves, and a plunging neckline, this dress also features a subtle twist at the waist that creates integrated bands that tie at the back. It has stylish, slim in-seam pockets at the hips. For a lovely draped garment, use a jersey fabric.



Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 28½" (72.5 cm)

Finished sleeve length: 3½" (9 cm) longer than normal

Materials

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 3⅜ yd (3 m)

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; ballpoint or stretch needle; twin stretch needle; elastic, ¼" (6 mm) wide: size 36: ¾ yd (0.7 m); sizes 38, 40, 42, 44: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)

Pattern Overview

Green pattern line, view B

Sheet A, pattern pieces 23 and 25

Sheet B, pattern pieces 21, 21a, 22, and 24

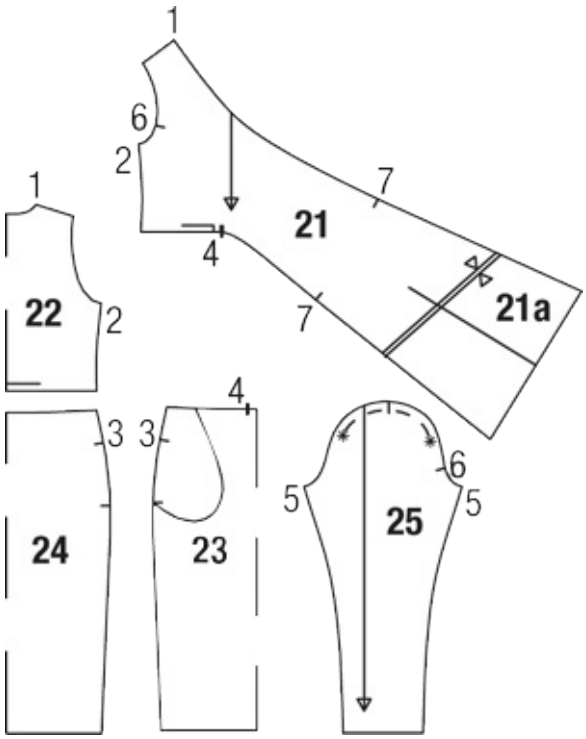
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace the pattern pieces 21 to 25 from the pattern insert, following the lines for view B only. Trace pieces 21, 23, and 25 a second time to make it easier to cut out the fabric pieces. Transfer all the pattern lines and markings.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape pieces 21 and 21a together on the joining lines.

Trace the pocket from piece 23 as a separate pattern.

Cutting

Fold a section of the fabric in half, right sides together, for pieces 23 and 24. When laying out the rest of the pattern pieces, lay the fabric out flat, right-side up, as shown in the cutting layout. Pin the pieces in place.

Cut from jersey:
Piece 21, upper front with integrated tie band–2
Piece 22, upper back–1 on the fold
Piece 23, lower front–1 on the fold
Piece 23, pocket–4
Piece 24, lower back–1 on the fold
Piece 25, sleeve–2

Mark and cut from jersey the facing strip for the back neck edge (piece a):
Size 36: 7⅛" × 1⅝" (18 × 4 cm)
Sizes 38, 40: 7½" × 1⅝" (19 × 4 cm)
Sizes 42, 44: 8" × 1⅝" (20.5 × 4 cm)

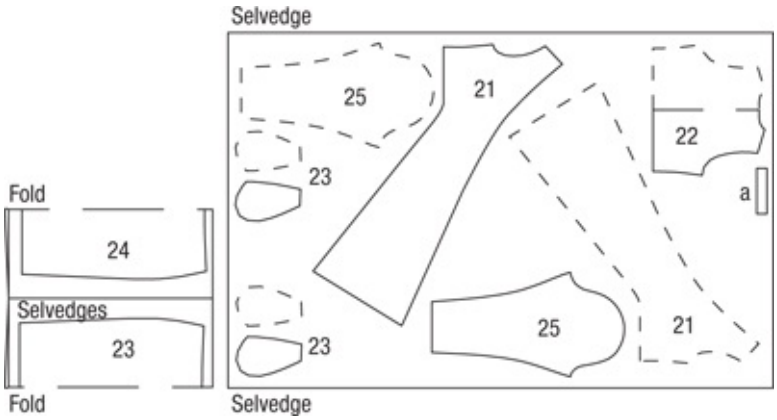
Fuse the bias stay tape to these edges so they don’t stretch:

- The wrong sides of the neck edges on the upper fronts up to seam mark 7
- The lower front edge between the slit mark and the seam mark
- The front shoulder seam edges
- The back neck edge
- The armhole edges
- The pocket opening edges on the lower front

Cutting Layouts

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together, to cut skirt pieces. Cut remaining pieces from a single layer of fabric, right side up. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

Add Neck Facing

1. Fold the facing strip for the back neck edge lengthwise, with the wrong sides together, and press. Pin the folded facing strip to the back neck edge so that the folded edge of the strip lies on the garment, ⅜" (1 cm) past the seam line (Figure 1).

Figure 1

2. Stitch the facing strip in place, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam. Trim the seam allowances. Turn the facing strip to the inside and topstitch ¼" (6 mm) from the neck edge.

Sew Shoulder Seams

3. Match the shoulder seams and stitch, making sure the seam allowances of the front neck edge extend past the shoulder seams.

Stitch Tie Bands

4. On the upper fronts, fold the integrated tie bands lengthwise with the right sides together. Stitch each along the long edge, starting at seam number 7, and across the end. Trim the seam allowances diagonally across the corners. Do not turn right side out yet (Figure 2).

Figure 2

5. Press the seam allowances on the neck edges of the upper fronts to the inside, turn in, and stitch in place.

6. Turn the integrated tie bands right side out and press.

Stitch Front Seam Allowances

7. On the lower edges of the upper front pieces, press the seam allowance to the inside, from seam number 7 to the slit mark. Beginning at seam number 4, press at an angle toward the seam allowance edge. Do not clip the seam allowance. Turn the seam allowance under and stitch it in place.

8. On the top edge of the lower front, press the seam allowance to the inside, between the slit marks. Beginning at the slit mark, press at an angle toward the seam allowance edge. Do not clip the seam allowance. Turn the allowance under and stitch it in place.

Sew Side Seams

9. With right sides together, stitch the side seams on the upper front and lower front pieces. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Do not stitch across the pocket openings.

Insert Pockets

10. Working from the inside of the dress, pin the pocket pieces to the seam allowances of the pocket opening edges, right sides together. Stitch the pockets in place directly along the marked seam lines. Above the pocket openings, stitch the pocket pieces close to the seam.

Press the pocket pieces forward and stitch the edges together. Baste the upper pocket edges in place.

Assemble Fronts and Backs

11. Stitch the upper front pieces to the lower front piece, starting at the slit mark on seam number 4. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure.

12. With right sides together, stitch the upper back piece and the lower back piece together. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure.

Create Elastic Waistband

13. Press the seam allowances up and stitch as marked on the pattern to form the casing for the elastic at the waist.

14. Cut the elastic, including ¼" (6 mm) seam allowances:

Size 36: 23½" (59.5 cm)

Size 38: 25" (63.5 cm)

Size 40: 26½" (67.5 cm)

Size 42: 28¼" (72 cm)

Size 44: 29¾" (75.5 cm)

Insert the elastic into the casing and stitch the ends in place.

Stitch Hem

15. Press the hem allowance to the inside of the garment. Working from the right side, use a twin needle to stitch the hem 1¼" (3.2 cm) from the edge.

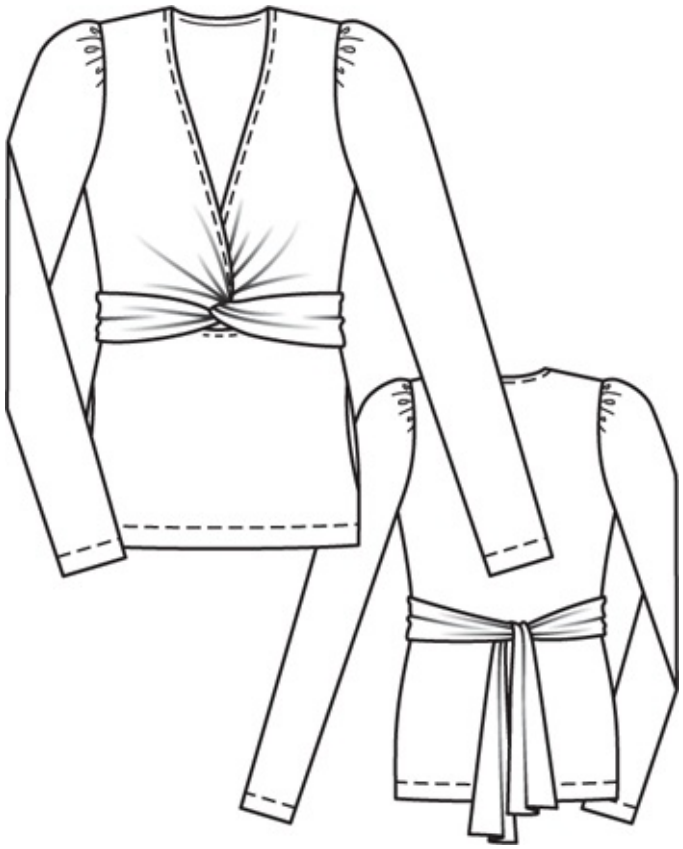
Sew and Attach Sleeves

16. Stitch the seams on both sleeves. Press the sleeve hem allowances to the inside. Using a twin needle, stitch the sleeve hems 1¼" (3.2 cm) from the edge.

17. Following the marks on the pattern, gather the sleeve caps. Pin the sleeves to the armholes, matching notch 6 exactly. Make sure the gathers are evenly spaced over the shoulders. Stitch the sleeves to the armholes, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam.

Variation: Plunge Top

The top is simply a shorter version of the dress. Ours is made from a double border print fabric. If you use a similar jersey with lengthwise borders, make sure the border runs along the center of the back and lower front.



Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished back length: 27" (68.5 cm)

Finished sleeve length: 3½" (9 cm) longer than normal

Materials

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 3½ yd (3.2 m)

Note: The top is shown in a double border print fabric.

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; ballpoint or stretch needle; twin stretch needle; elastic, ¼" (6 mm) wide: size 36, ¾ yd (0.7 m); sizes 38, 40, 42, 44: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)

Pattern Overview

Green pattern line, view A

Sheet A, pattern pieces 23 and 25

Sheet B, pattern pieces 21, 21a, 22, and 24

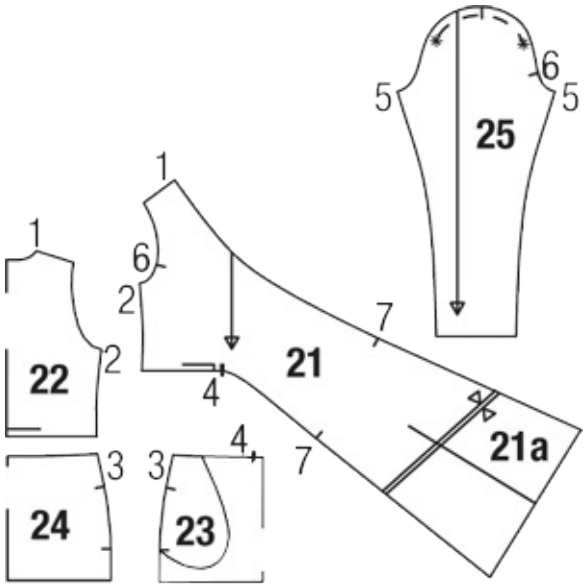
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation, Cutting, and Construction

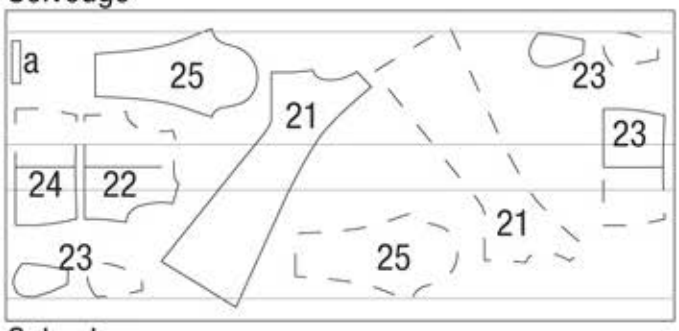
See instructions for the V-neck dress. When tracing pattern pieces 21 to 25 for the top, follow the lines for view A only.

Cutting Layout

Cut pieces from a single layer of fabric, right side up. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down on the fabric.

Jersey, 60" (152.5 cm) wide

Selvedge



Selvedge

Make the Plunge Top in a playful floral print for a season-spanning top that's easy to wear with trousers or jeans.

Blooming Bouclé Cap-Sleeved Dress

Floral designs don’t always have to be a loud and showy print or even sweet and demure. In this bouclé fabric, flowers become a fabulous, subtle suggestion. Depending on the sewn-on ribbon trim, you can easily make this dress a little wilder or completely posh—there are lots of fun ribbons to choose from. As lovely as the novelty bouclé is, any fabric with some body would work with this classic dress—make it your own!

Bouclé fabrics are available in many different colors and patterns. With an irregular, knobby surface, the small knots in the bouclé weave give even solids a distinctive texture. Try this dress in a stripe, herringbone, or even plaid for a Chanel-like feel.

Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

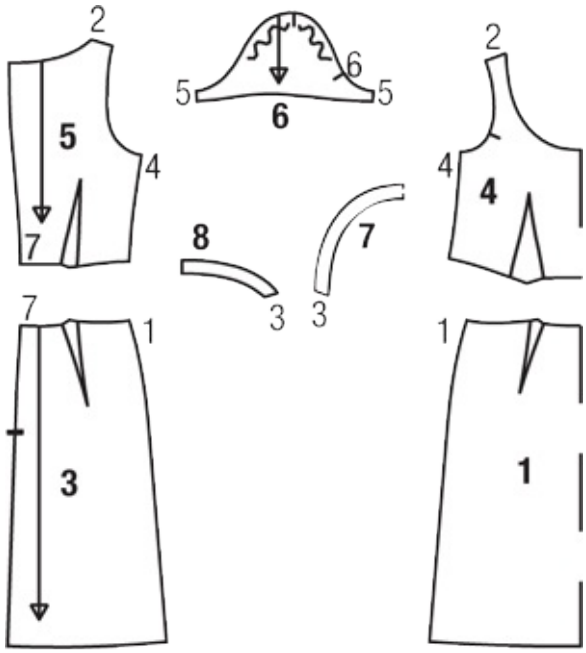
Finished length from the waist: 23" (58.5 cm)

Materials

Novelty bouclé, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 34, 36, 38: 15/8 yd (1.5 m); sizes 40, 42, 44: 1¾ yd (1.6 m)
Medium-weight fusible interfacing
Grosgrain ribbon, ⅝" (1.5 cm) wide: size 34: 41/8 yd (3.8 m); sizes 36, 38: 4¼ yd (3.9 m); size 40: 43/8 yd (4 m); size 42: 4½ yd (4.1 m)
Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Blue pattern line
Sheet E, pattern pieces 1, 4, and 8
Sheet F, pattern pieces 3 and 5 to 7
Size 34
Size 36
Size 38
Size 40
Size 42
Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pattern pieces 1 and 3 to 8, transferring all of the pattern lines and markings.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold the dress fabric in half lengthwise, right sides together, and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout.

Cut from bouclé:
Piece 1, front skirt panel–1 on the fold
Piece 3, back skirt panel–2
Piece 4, front–1 on the fold
Piece 5, back–2
Piece 6, sleeve–2
Piece 7, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 8, back neck facing–2

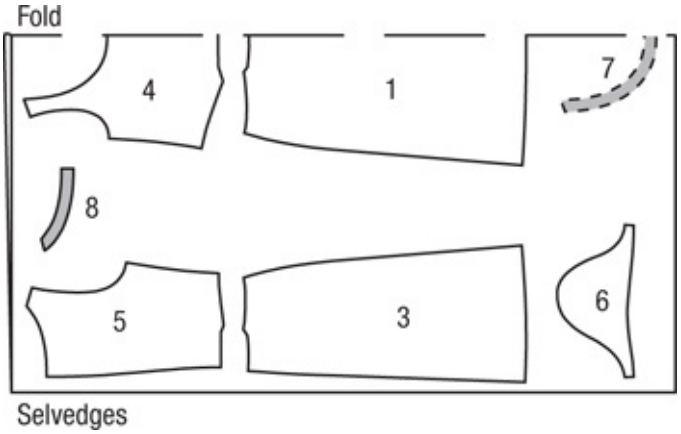
Cut from interfacing:
Piece 7, front neck facing–1 on the fold
Piece 8, back neck facing–2

Fuse the interfacing pieces to the corresponding dress pieces. Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the armhole edges and on the zipper opening edges.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place piece shown with a broken outline printed side down.

Boucle, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

Stitch and Trim Bodice Darts

1. Fold the front and back pieces, right sides together, down the center of the dart lines. Stitch on the dart lines, backstitching at the beginning of the seams only. Press the darts toward the center of the bodice.

2. On the right sides, pin lengths of the grosgrain ribbon to the front and back pieces along the dart lines. The ribbons should lie toward the center. Turn the ribbon ends under at the dart points. Edgestitch the ribbons in place (Figure 1).

Figure 1

Sew Side and Shoulder Seams

3. Pin the front and the back, right sides together. Stitch the side seams and the shoulder seams of the bodice, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seams to secure. Neaten the seam allowances and press them open. Stitch the shoulder seams of the facing and neaten the facing lower edge.

Trim and Sew Sleeves

4. Press the ⅝" (1.5 cm) hem allowance to the inside of each sleeve. Neaten the hem edges using a zigzag stitch or by serging. Pin a length of the grosgrain ribbon to the lower sleeve edges, then edgestitch the ribbon in place.

5. Fold each sleeve in half, right sides together. Stitch the sleeve seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seams to secure. Neaten the seam allowances and press them open. Handstitch the seam allowances to the edge of the lower sleeve.

Set In Sleeves

6. Pin each sleeve to an armhole, matching exactly notch 6. Set in the sleeves, taking care to evenly distribute the fullness around the sleeve caps.

Stitch and Trim Skirt Darts

7. Stitch the darts in the front skirt panel and back skirt panel as in Step 1. Press them toward the center of the skirt.

On the right sides, stitch lengths of the grosgrain ribbon along the dart lines, as in Step 2.

Sew Skirt Seams

8. Pin the front skirt panel to the back skirt panel, right sides together. Stitch the side seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure.

Sew Bodice to Skirt

9. With right sides together and taking care to match the side seams and the ribbon-covered darts, pin, then sew the skirt to the bodice. Press the seam allowances open.

Center and pin a length of grosgrain ribbon over the waistline seam. Edgestitch the ribbon in place.

Add Facing and Trim to Neck Edge

10. Pin and stitch the facing to the neck edge, right sides together. Trim the seam allowances and clip into the curves several times. Turn the facing up.

11. Place the patterns for pieces 4 and 5 together at the shoulder seams. Lay a length of grosgrain ribbon for the neck edge on the pattern and steam it to shape, setting the curve of the ribbon to match the neck edge.

On the right side of the dress, pin the ribbon to the neck edge along the facing attachment seam, leaving the facing free. Beginning at the back edges, stitch the ribbon edges in place, sewing a line just 1⅝" (4 cm) long. Baste the remainder of the ribbon in place along the neck edge (Figure 2).

Figure 2

Insert Invisible Zipper

12. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper to the opening edges on the back. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.) Fold the upper ends of the zipper tapes down and sew in place.

Sew Center Back Seam

13. Stitch the center back seam from the lower skirt edge to the zipper, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam.

14. Turn the facing to the inside and press the edge. Handstitch the facing to the zipper tapes.

Finish Dress

15. Edgestitch the grosgrain ribbon in place along the neck edge.

16. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside of the skirt, neaten the edges with zigzagging or by serging, and sew in place by hand.

Chapter 4

Formal

Any special occasion will become exceptional when you wear a formal dress you've carefully sewn yourself. When you choose lavish fabric—shimmering silk, gleaming organza, shot taffeta, airy tulle lace, or plush wool velour—and make the perfect dress that fits exactly right, you'll feel like the belle of any ball.

In this chapter, you'll find a sophisticated jacket that can instantly glam up any outfit, a grown-up princess party dress, and a frock fancy enough for your most elegant evening engagements.

Delicately Scalloped Skirt

This luxe skirt, an elegant silhouette made from sumptuous fabrics, is an ideal special occasion garment. The cut of the skirt is simple and easy to sew, and floating tulle lace over the shimmering shot taffeta creates a delicate look. Look for a tulle lace with an airy scalloped edge. Sew the coordinating jacket for a stunning ensemble.

Skill Level: ●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 25¾" (65.5 cm)

Materials

Shot taffeta, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: ⅞ yd (0.8 m)

Metallic tulle lace with scalloped edge, 37" (94 cm) wide: all sizes: 2⅝ yd (2.4 m)

Lightweight fusible interfacing

Notions: 1 invisible zipper, 9" (23 cm) long; 1 snap fastener; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line

Sheet C, pattern piece 1

Sheet D, pattern piece 2

Size 34

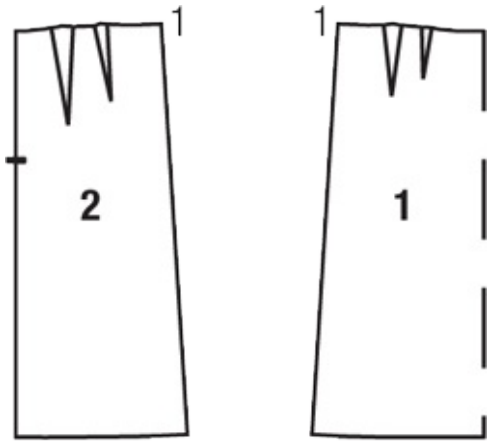
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size skirt you are making.

Trace pieces 1 and 2 from the pattern insert, transferring all pattern markings, including the dart lines.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold taffeta in half lengthwise, right sides together, and lay the pattern pieces on the fabric as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from taffeta:
Piece 1, front skirt panel–1 on the fold
Piece 2, back skirt panel–2

Mark the zipper opening by making small, 3⁄16" (5 mm) clips in the edges of the seam allowances.

Mark and cut the waistband (piece a), from shot taffeta and from interfacing:
Size 34: 27¼" × 2" (69 × 5 cm)
Size 36: 28¾" × 2" (73 × 5 cm)
Size 38: 30½" × 2" (77.5 × 5 cm)
Size 40: 32" × 2" (81 × 5 cm)
Size 42: 33½" × 2" (85 × 5 cm)
Size 44: 35" × 2" (89 × 5 cm)

On the tulle lace fabric, measure and mark a line 25¾" (65.5 cm) up from and parallel to the scalloped edge. Cut out the outer skirt layer along this line (Figure 1).

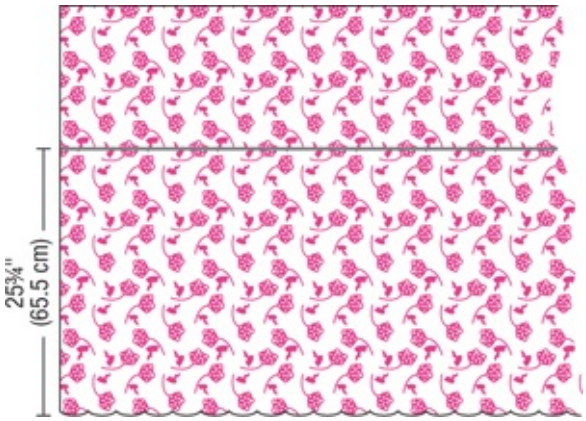


Figure 1

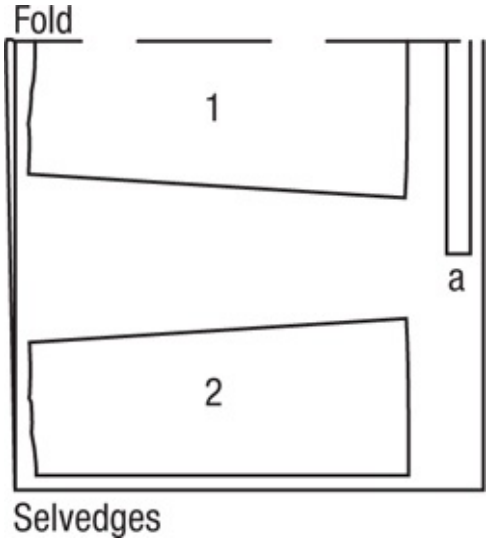
Mark piece a on the remainder of the lace, then cut it out for the waistband. Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the taffeta waistband piece.

Lay the wrong side of the lace waistband piece on the right side of the taffeta waistband and baste around the edges.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together.

Taffeta, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Note: See The Artful Jacket for jacket instructions.

Construction

right side of fabric

wrong side of fabric

interfacing

Stitch Darts

1. Fold each skirt panel along the center of the darts, right sides together. Pin the dart lines together, then stitch, beginning at the upper edge. Secure the beginning of the seam with backstitching. Do not backstitch at the point of the dart; instead, knot the threads (Figure 2). Press the darts toward the center front and center back of the skirt panels (Figure 3).

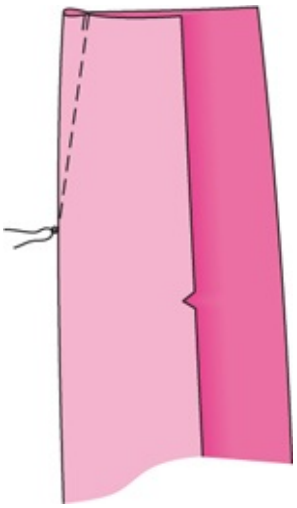


Figure 2

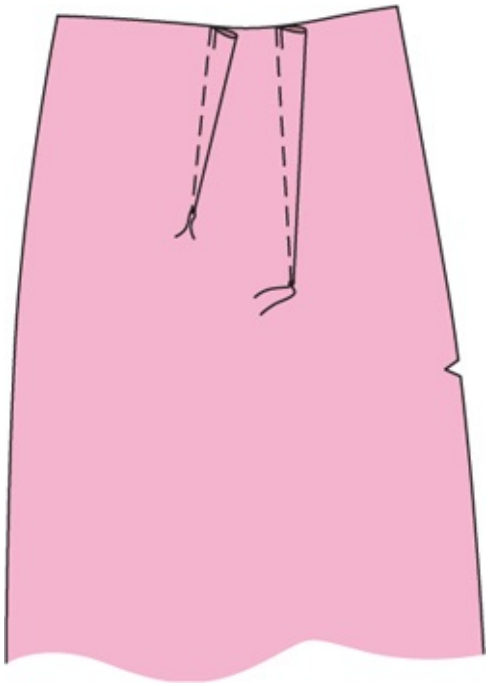


Figure 3

Stitch Side Seams

2. Lay the two back skirt panels on the front skirt panel, right sides together. Pin the side seams together and stitch ⅝" (1.5 cm) from the edge, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seams (Figure 4). Press the seam allowances open and neaten the edges.

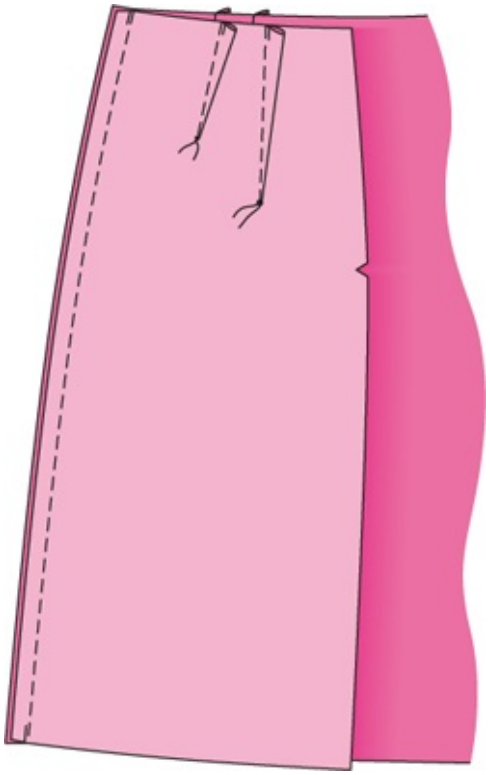


Figure 4

Gather Lace Layer

3. Using the longest stitch setting on your sewing machine, sew a line of stitching ¼" (6 mm) from the upper edge of the lace fabric. Make a second line of stitching 3⁄16" (5 mm) away from the first line of stitching inside the seam line.

Hold the bobbin threads together and pull on them, gathering the outer layer until it's the same width as the upper edge of the taffeta skirt. Knot the threads. Distribute the gathers evenly around the lace overskirt (Figure 5).

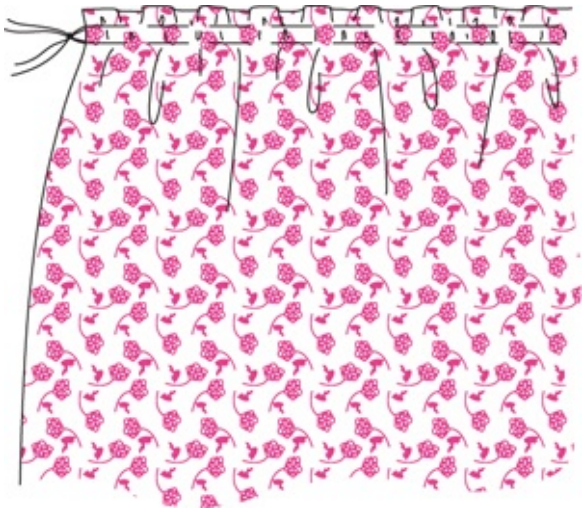


Figure 5

Baste Lace to Skirt

4. Lay the wrong side of the lace overskirt on the right side of the taffeta skirt. Baste the upper edges and the back edges of the zipper opening together (Figure 6).

Figure 6

Insert Invisible Zipper

5. Lay the open zipper, right-side down, on the right skirt back 3⁄16" (5 mm) from the edge of the fabric. The zipper teeth should begin 3⁄8" (1 cm) below the upper edge of the skirt. Using an invisible zipper foot, stitch the right half of the zipper in place, from the upper edge to the slit mark. The needle should be to the left of the zipper teeth (Figure 7).

Figure 7

6. Close the zipper. Lay the second zipper tape on the opening edge of the left skirt back. Pin the upper end of the zipper tape in place (Figure 8). Open the zipper. Stitch the second zipper tape in place, from the upper edge to the opening mark. The needle should be to the right of the zipper teeth (Figure 9). Close the zipper again.

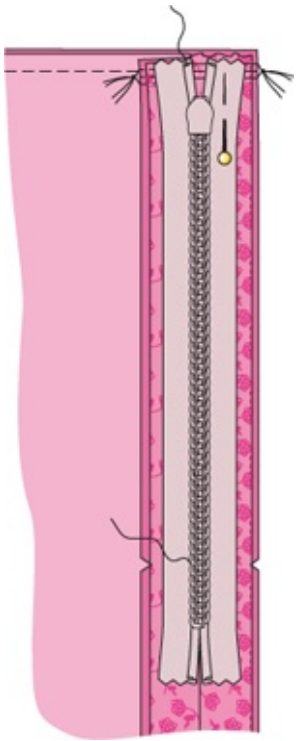


Figure 8

Figure 9

Sew Back Seams

7. Clip the lace fabric close to the last stitch of the zipper attachment seams and fold the lace upward. Lay the taffeta skirt back pieces right sides together. Pin the back seam edges together, from the lower edge to the opening mark. Pull the loose end of the zipper outward. Stitch the back seam with a ⅝" (1.5 cm) seam allowance, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam to secure (Figure 10).

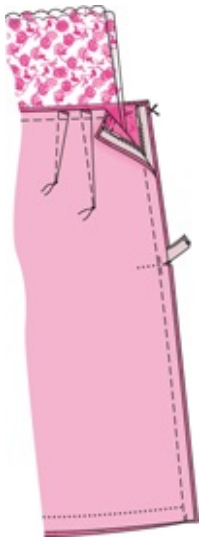


Figure 10

8. Lay the back edges of the overskirt together, right sides together, and pin. Stitch together from the lower edge to the opening mark with a ⅝" (1.5 cm) seam allowance, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam (Figure 11). Trim the seam allowances to ¼" (6 mm) wide and press to one side.

Figure 11

9. Neaten the seam allowances on the center back seam of the taffeta skirt, and then press open.

Attach Waistband

10. Fold the waistband in half lengthwise, with the interfaced side facing in. Press the fold edge. Unfold the waistband and pin it to the top edge of the skirt, right sides together, so that it extends ⅜" (1 cm) past the right opening edge and 1¼" (3.2 cm) past the left slit edge on the back (Figure 12). Stitch, using a ⅜" (1 cm) seam allowance. Press the seam allowances toward the waistband.

Figure 12

11. Press under the other long waistband edge, creating a fold ⅜" (1 cm) wide (Figure 13).

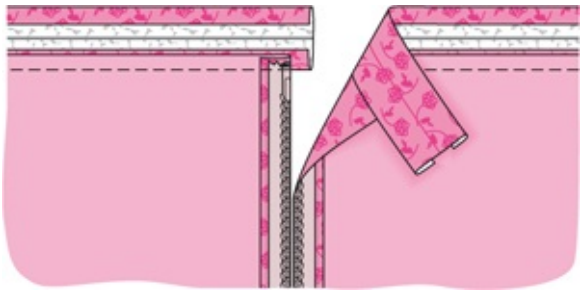


Figure 13

12. Fold the waistband on the pressed crease, right sides together. Stitch the ends closed, using a ⅜" (1 cm) seam (Figure 14). Trim the seam allowances diagonally across the corners.

Figure 14

13. Turn the waistband right side out. Pin the inner half over the attachment seam (Figure 15). Topstitch the waistband on the right side along the attachment seam close to the edge, catching the inside half of the band in place.

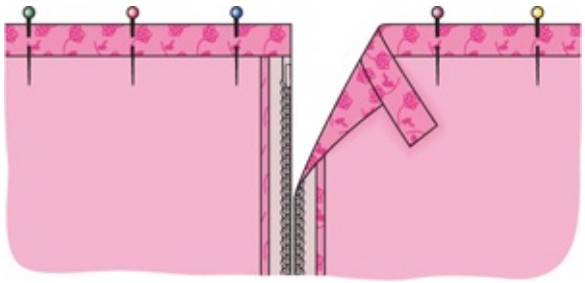


Figure 15

Finish Skirt

14. Sew the upper part of the snap fastener to the inside of the right end of the waistband, stitching through to the right side of the waistband with even stitches. Sew the under part of the snap to the left end of the waistband (the underlap) (Figure 16).

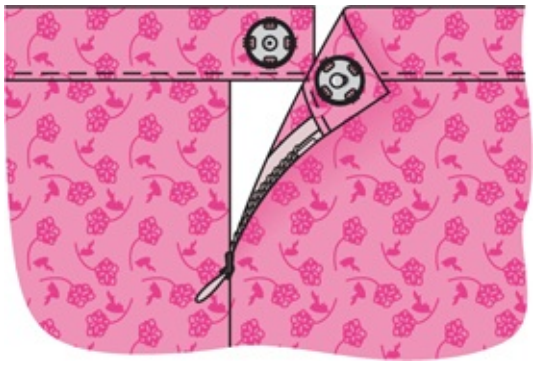


Figure 16

15. On the taffeta skirt, neaten the edge of the hem allowance with a zigzag stitch. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside and sew in place loosely by hand.

The Artful Jacket

When paired with the Delicately Scalloped Skirt, this jacket makes a charmingly elegant ensemble. But The Artful Jacket, with its pleated collar and gathered ¾–length sleeves, will dress up any outfit all on its own. Sew this jacket with a wool velour fabric for a posh finish.

Skill Level: ●●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished back length: 21" (53.5 cm)

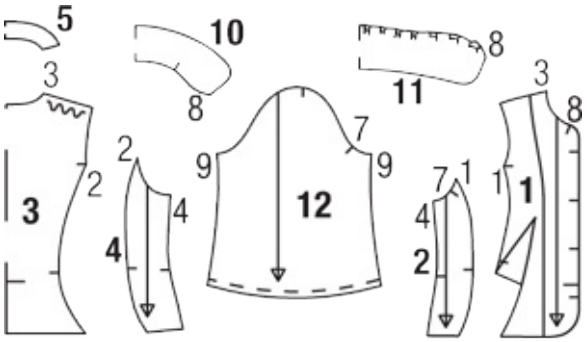
Finished sleeve length: 20" (51 cm)

Materials

Wool velour, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 36, 38: 1½ yd (1.4 m); sizes 40, 42, 44: 1⅝ yd (1.5 m)
Lightweight lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: all sizes: 11/8 yd (1 m)
Medium-weight fusible interfacing
Notions: 4 hook-and-eye closures, ½" (1.3 cm); 2 shoulder pads

Pattern Overview

Green pattern line
Sheet G, pattern pieces 3 to 5, 11, and 12
Sheet H, pattern pieces 1, 2, and 10
Size 36
Size 38
Size 40
Size 42
Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size jacket you are making.

Trace pieces 1 to 5 and 10 to 12 from the pattern insert. Transfer all pattern markings, dart lines, and seam numbers.

Trace the facing from piece 1 as a separate pattern piece.

The markings for the hook-and-eye closures on piece 1 are for size 36. For all other sizes, mark the top marking the same distance from the neck edge. The bottom marking is the same for all sizes. Space the remaining markings evenly in between the top and bottom.

On the center front lining piece, mark a horizontal line from the section seam to the point of the dart and cut open. Lay the vertical dart closed, opening a bust dart for the lining piece.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold the wool velour in half lengthwise, right sides together. Note the direction of the nap. Place the pattern pieces on the fabric as shown in the cutting layout and pin in place, making sure that they are all oriented in the same direction.

Cut from wool velour:
Piece 1, center front–2
Piece 1, front facing–2
Piece 2, side front–2
Piece 3, center back–1 on the fold
Piece 4, side back–2
Piece 5, back facing–1 on the fold
Piece 10, undercollar–1 on the fold
Piece 11, top collar–1 on the fold
Piece 12, sleeve–2

Mark and cut two sleeve bands (piece a) from velour and two from interfacing:
Size 36: 12⅜" × 2¾" (31.5 × 7 cm)
Size 38: 12¾" × 2¾" (32 × 7 cm)
Size 40: 13¼" × 2¾" (33.5 × 7 cm)
Sizes 42, 44: 13½" × 2¾" (34.5 × 7 cm)

Fold the lining fabric in half lengthwise, right sides together, and pin the lining pattern pieces in place as shown in the cutting layout.

Cut from lining:
Piece 1, center front–2, minus the width of the facing
Piece 2, side front–2
Piece 3, center back–1 on the fold, minus the neck facing, plus an ease pleat of ¾" (2 cm) at the center
Piece 4, side back–2
Piece 12, sleeve–2

Cut from interfacing:

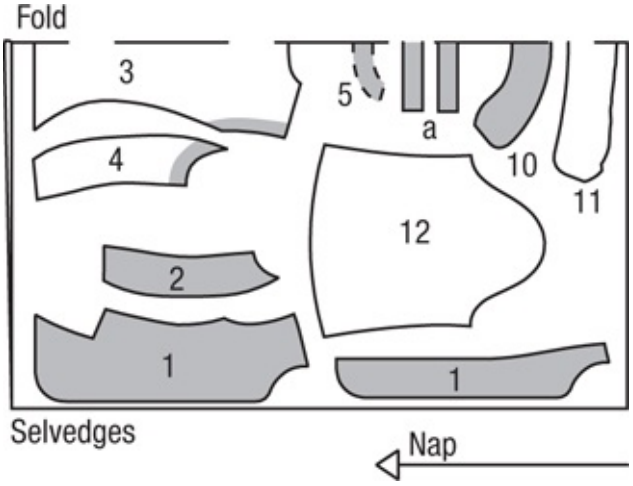
Piece 1, center front–2
Piece 1, front facing–2
Piece 2, side front—2
Piece 3, center back shaded area–2
Piece 4, side back shaded area–2
Piece 5, back facing–1 on the fold
Piece 10, undercollar–1 on the fold

Fuse the interfacing pieces to the corresponding wool velour pieces. Apply interfacing also to the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowances on the center back and side back pieces.

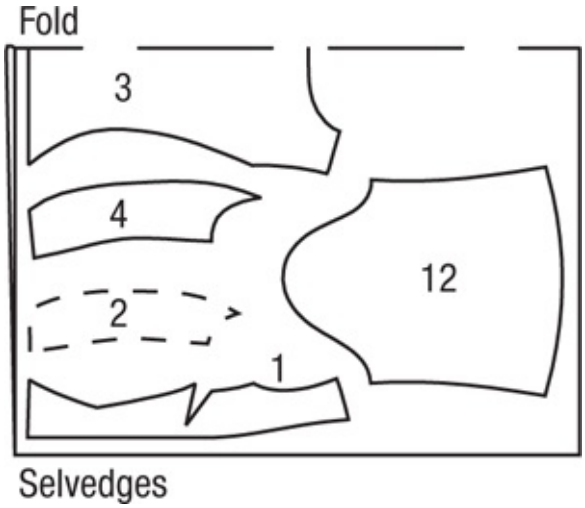
Cutting Layouts

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as jacket fabric. Note the direction of nap on velour fabric. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down.

Velour, 60" (152.5 cm) wide

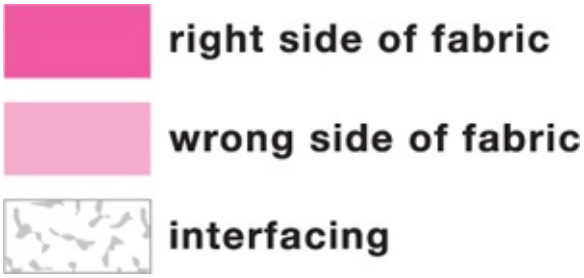


Lining, 54" (137 cm) wide



Note: *Refer to the Delicately Scalloped Skirt for skirt instructions.*

Construction



Stitch Darts

1. Fold the center front pieces down the center of the darts, right sides together. Stitch on the dart lines, beginning on the outside edges. Backstitch only at the beginning of the seam. Trim the dart allowances to ⅜" (1 cm) wide and press open, pressing the points of the darts flat.

Sew Front Section Seams

2. With right sides together, pin the side front pieces to the center front pieces, matching the marks at seam number 1 and the marked notches exactly. Stitch the front section seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seams to secure. Clip the seam allowances several times along the curves. Press the seam allowances open.

Sew Back Section Seams

3. With right sides together, pin the side back pieces to the center back piece, matching the marks at seam number 2 and the marked notches exactly. Stitch the back section seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seams to secure. Clip the seam allowances several times along the curves. Press the seam allowances open.

Sew Side and Shoulder Seams

4. Lay the jacket front sections on the jacket back section, right sides together. Pin the side seams, then sew, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure.

5. Stitch the shoulder seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam.

Add Front Facing

6. Sew the front facing to the back facing at the shoulder seams.

7. Pin the facing to the jacket front, right sides together. Stitch along the hem edge, the front edges, and the neck edge, up to the seam mark at seam number 8. At the hem edge, stop stitching 1¼" (3.2 cm) from the facing edges. On the front edges, leave ¼" (6 mm) open at each seam mark for the hook-and-eye closures. Leave the facing lying right sides together with the jacket for now (Figure 1).

Figure 1

Sew and Attach Collar

8. Lay the pleats in the direction of the arrows on the top collar and baste by hand. With right sides together, stitch the top collar and undercollar pieces together along the outside edges, beginning and ending the stitching in the front, exactly at the seam line of the attachment edge. Trim the seam allowance and clip the corners (Figure 2).

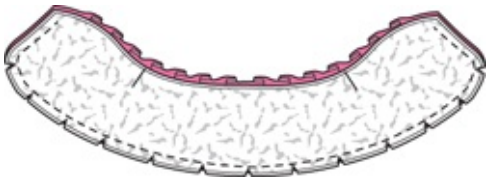


Figure 2

9. Turn the collar right side out. Lay the collar between the jacket and the facing. Stitch the undercollar to the neck edge of the jacket. Stitch the top collar to the facing. Press the seams open, then turn the facing to the inside (Figure 3).

Figure 3

10. Pin the collar attachment seams together exactly. Turn the back facing up again and stitch the seam allowances together, close to the collar attachment seam. Turn the facing down again.

Attach Hook-and-Eye Closures

11. On the right front edge of the jacket, slide the hooks through the seam openings, from the inside to the outside. Slide the eyes through the openings in the left front edge. Sew the ends of the hooks and the eyes to the facings.

12. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside.

Sew and Set In Sleeves

13. Fold the sleeve pieces in half lengthwise, right sides together, and pin. Sew the sleeve seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure.

14. With the jacket wrong side out, pin the sleeves to the armholes, right sides together. Match seam number 7 exactly on the armhole. Set in the sleeves, evenly distributing the fullness around the sleeve cap.

15. Try on the jacket and pin shoulder pads in place. Sew in the shoulder pads.

Sew Jacket Lining

16. Sew the lining as in Steps 1 to 5. Construct the sleeves and set them into the lining following Steps 13 and 14.

17. Pin and stitch the lining to the inside facing edge. Lay the lining inside the jacket, with wrong sides together, and pull the sleeve linings into the sleeves.

Finish Jacket Hem

18. Stitch the jacket hem in place by hand. Turn the lining under along the hem edge and press the fold lightly. Slide the lining upward in a shallow curve and pin to the jacket hem allowance. Sew the facings and lining in place at the hemline.

Gather Sleeve Edges

19. To gather the lower sleeve and lining edges, match the lower edges and underarm seam of the sleeve and sleeve lining. Use the longest stitch setting and sew two basting lines ¼" (6 mm) apart close to the lower edges of the sleeves. Pull on both bobbin threads together to gather the lower sleeve edges and linings until they match the long edges of the sleeve bands. Knot the threads.

20. With right sides together, stitch the narrow edges of each sleeve band together to form a circle. Pin and stitch the sleeve bands to the lower sleeve edges, right sides together. Press the seam allowances toward the sleeve bands. Fold the sleeve bands half to the inside, turn the raw edges under, and sew to the attachment seams.

Princess Taffeta Dress

This princess-style party dress has a fairy-tale feel to it, thanks to elegant shot taffeta combined with its perfectly fitted bodice, wide, swingy skirt, and bracelet-length sleeves. When it’s made from a subtle fabric, this dress is the perfect companion for your favorite statement necklace.

Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 24" (61 cm)

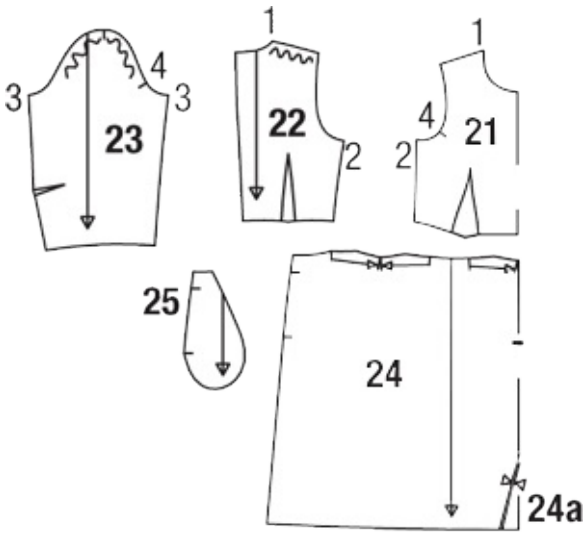
Finished sleeve length: 20" (51 cm)

Materials

Shot taffeta, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 2⅝ yd (2.4 m)
Lightweight lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: sizes 36, 38, 40: ⅝ yd (0.6 m); sizes 42, 44: ¾ yd (0.7 m)
Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Blue pattern line
Sheet A, pattern pieces 21, 22, 24a, and 25
Sheet B, pattern pieces 23 and 24
Size 36 _____
Size 38 __ __ __
Size 40 _ - - _ - - _ - -
Size 42 ...._ ...._
Size 44 ~~~~~~~~~~



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 21 to 25 from the pattern insert, transferring all pattern markings, including dart lines, pleat lines, and seam numbers.

Trace pieces 24 and 24a a second time to make cutting out the skirt back easier. Add a ⅝" (1.5 cm) seam allowance to the fold line indicated on the center of the skirt front.

The pleat arrows on piece 24 are marked for size 36. For all other sizes, extend the arrows to the cutting lines for the size dress you are making.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 24 and 24a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Fold the shot taffeta in half lengthwise, right sides together, and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from shot taffeta:
Piece 21, front–1 on the fold
Piece 22, back–2
Piece 23, sleeve–2
Piece 24, skirt front–1 on the fold
Piece 24, skirt back–2 with added seam allowance
Piece 25, pocket–2

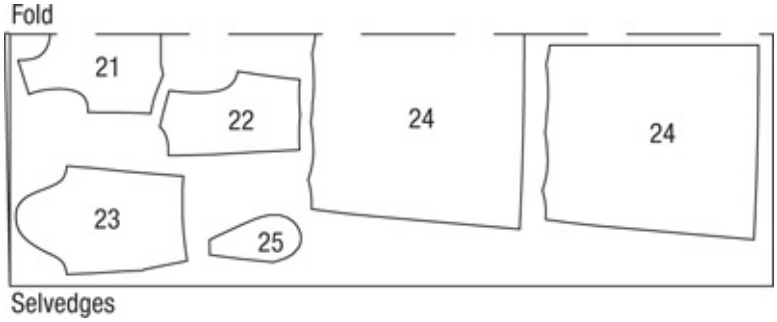
Cut from lining:
Piece 21, front–1 on the fold
Piece 22, back–2
Piece 25, pocket–2

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the neck edges on the front and back pieces.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together.

Taffeta, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction

Stitch Darts

1. Fold the front and back pieces, right sides together, down the center of the darts. Stitch on the dart lines, beginning at the outside edges. Backstitch only at the beginning of the dart seams. Trim the front dart allowances to ⅜" (1 cm) wide and press toward the center of the garment. Press the back darts toward the center.

Sew Side and Shoulder Seams

2. With right sides together, lay the two back pieces on the front piece, taking care to match seam numbers 1 and 2 exactly. Pin, then stitch the bodice side seams. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Press the seam allowances open.

3. Pin, then stitch the shoulder seams. Press the seams open.

Baste Pleats

4. Lay the pleats on the upper edges of the skirt front and the skirt back in the direction of the arrows. Baste the pleats in place.

Sew Skirt Side Seams

5. With right sides together, pin the skirt back to the skirt front along the side seams. Stitch the skirt side seams, leaving open the marked pocket openings.

Sew Pockets

6. Stitch the pocket lining pieces to the seam allowances of the skirt front side seam pocket openings. Sew along the marked seam lines.

7. Stitch the taffeta pocket pieces to the seam allowances of the skirt back side seam pocket openings. Sew along the marked seam lines.

Press the pocket pieces forward and stitch together. Baste the upper pocket edges in place.

Sew Bodice to Skirt

8. With right sides together, align the lower edge of the bodice with the upper edge of the skirt, matching pleat lines to the darts. Pin around the waistline. Sew the skirt attachment seam, then press the seam allowances up.

Insert Invisible Zipper

9. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper to the back opening edges. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.) Be careful to match the waistline seams.

Stitch Center Back Seam

10. With right sides together, stitch the center back seam from the lower edge of the skirt to the end of the zipper. Backstitch at the beginning and end to secure the seam.

Sew and Attach Lining

11. Stitch the darts in the front and back lining pieces as in Step 1.

12. Stitch the bodice lining side and shoulder seams as in Step 2.

13. Pin the lining right sides together with the neck edge of the bodice. At the zipper opening, turn the lining back 3⁄16" (5 mm) before the opening edge and pin to the neck edge. At the opening edges, turn the seam allowances to the outside and pin to the neck edge over the lining. Stitch along the neck edge, then trim the seam allowances.

14. Turn the allowances of the opening edges to the inside of the bodice. Turn the lining up and understitch as close to the seam allowances as possible. Turn the lining to the inside, then baste it to the armhole edges. Turn the lining edges under and sew to the zipper tapes and to the waistline seam.

Sew and Set in Sleeves

15. Fold the sleeve pieces, right sides together, down the center of the darts. Stitch on the dart lines, starting at the outside edges. Backstitch at the beginning of the dart seams only. Press the darts up.

16. Fold the sleeve pieces in half lengthwise, right sides together. Pin, making sure seam number 3 matches, then stitch the sleeve seams.

17. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) sleeve hem allowances to the inside and neaten the raw edges with a zigzag stitch or by serging. Sew the hem in place by hand.

18. With right sides together, place the sleeves in the armholes. Pin the sleeves, taking care to match notch number 4 on the sleeve to notch number 4 on armhole. Set in the sleeves, easing the sleeves into the armhole and evenly distributing the fullness around the cap.

Finish Hem

19. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem to the inside of the skirt and neaten the edges with a zigzag stitch or by serging. Sew the hem in place by hand.

Sophisticated Silk V-Neck

This sophisticated, knee-length dress will take you from your office uptown to a dinner engagement downtown. It combines a wide V-neck with sumptuous silk dress fabric for an elegant look. Decorative front pleats and ¾–length sleeves create a feminine silhouette.

Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38, 40, 42

Finished length from the waist: 24" (61 cm)

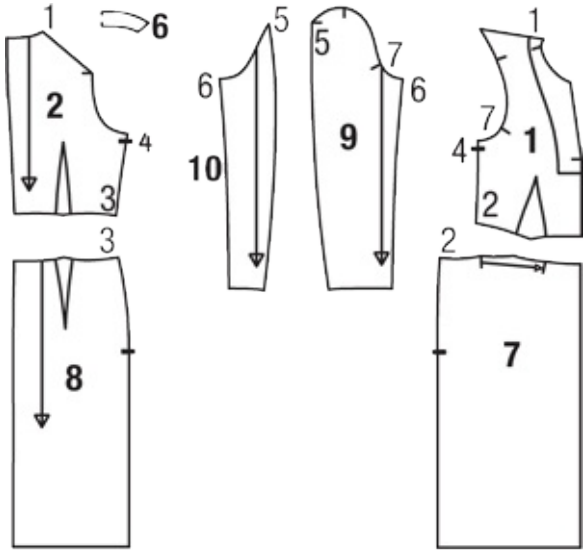
Finished sleeve length: 18" (46 cm)

Materials

Silk faille, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 34, 36, 38, 40: 1⅞ yd (1.7 m); size 42: 2 yd (1.8 m)
Medium-weight fusible interfacing
Notions: 1 invisible zipper, 16" (40.5 cm) long; invisible zipper foot; pattern weights or silk pins (optional)

Pattern Overview

Red pattern line
Sheet G, pattern pieces 1, 7, and 9
Sheet H, pattern pieces 2, 6, 8, and 10
Size 34
Size 36
Size 38
Size 40
Size 42



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 1, 2, and 6 to 10 from the pattern insert. Trace the front facing from piece 1 as a separate pattern piece.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold the silk faille in half lengthwise and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place. Cut right and left pieces as opposites.

Cut from silk faille:

Piece 1, front with integrated yoke–2

Piece 1, front facing–2

Piece 2, back–2

Piece 6, back facing–1 on the fold

Piece 7, front skirt panel–2

Piece 8, back skirt panel–2

Piece 9, sleeve front–2

Piece 10, sleeve back–2

Cut from interfacing:

Piece 1, front facing–2

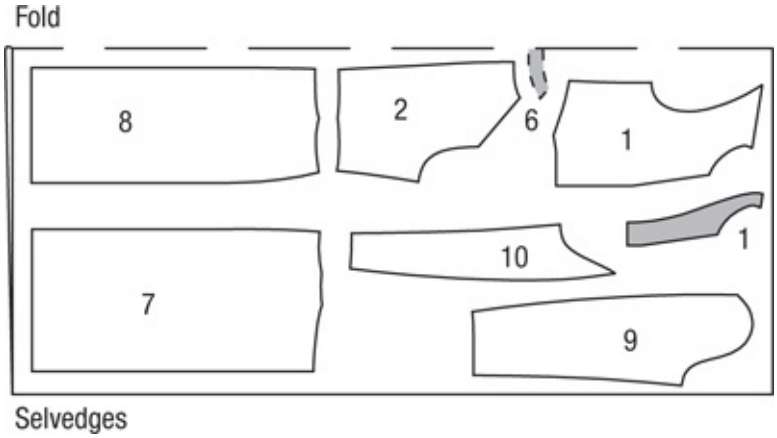
Piece 6, back facing–1 on the fold

TIP: Because pins can damage silk fabric, consider using pattern weights to hold your paper pieces down. Alternatively, you can use silk pins, being careful to insert them only in the seam allowances.

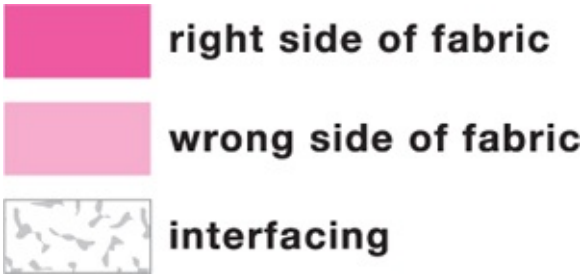
Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as dress fabric. Place piece shown with a broken outline printed side down.

Silk faille, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction



Stitch Darts

1. Fold the front and back pieces and the back skirt panels, right sides together, down the center of the darts. Stitch on the dart lines, beginning at the outside edges. Backstitch only at the beginning of the seam. Trim the seam allowances of the wide front darts to ⅜" (1 cm) wide and neaten the edges. Press all darts toward the center of the piece.

Sew Center Seams

2. With right sides together, pin the back pieces. Stitch the center back seam, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam to secure. Press the seam allowance open and neaten.

3. With right sides together, pin the front skirt panels. Stitch the center seam, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam to secure. Press the seam allowances open and neaten.

4. With right sides together, pin the back skirt panels. Stitch the center seam, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam to secure. Press the seam allowances open and neaten.

Sew Back Yokes

5. With right sides together, stitch the integrated back yokes to the back piece. Press the seam allowances toward the yokes.

Add Facings

6. With right sides together, stitch the front facing pieces to the back facing piece at the shoulder seams (Figure 1). Press the seam allowances open.

Figure 1

7. Sew the facing to the neck edge and the center front seam. Neaten the lower facing edges. Lay the facing on the front pieces and the back pieces, right sides together. Pin along the neck edge up to the seam mark, matching the seam lines and seams. Stitch, beginning and ending exactly at the seam mark (Figure 2). Trim the seam allowances, tapering at the ends. Clip curves.

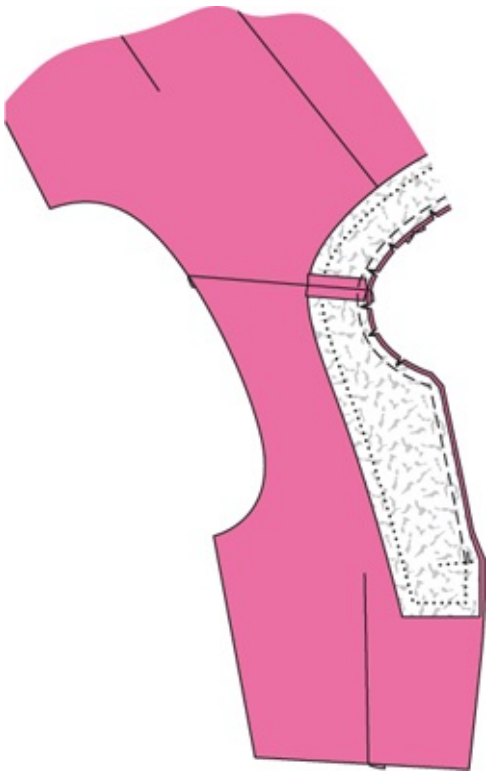


Figure 2

8. At each seam mark, turn the lower facing edge up and pin out of the way (Figure 3).

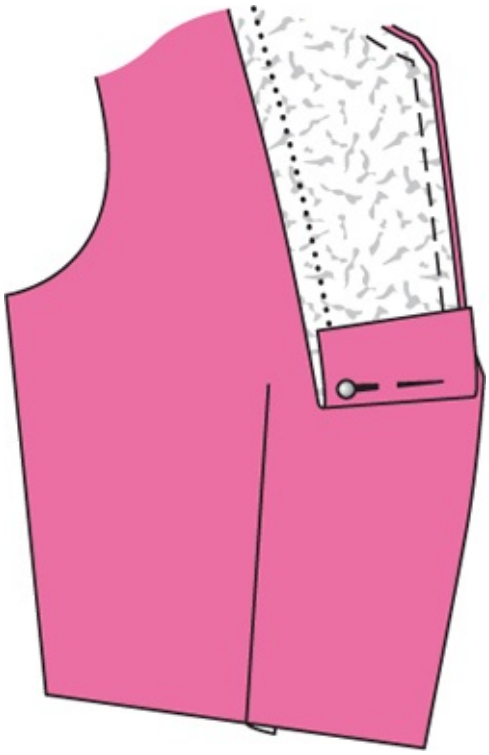


Figure 3

Stitch Center Front Seam

9. Lay the front pieces together, right sides facing. Pin the center front seam from the seam mark to the lower edge. Stitch, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam (Figure 4).

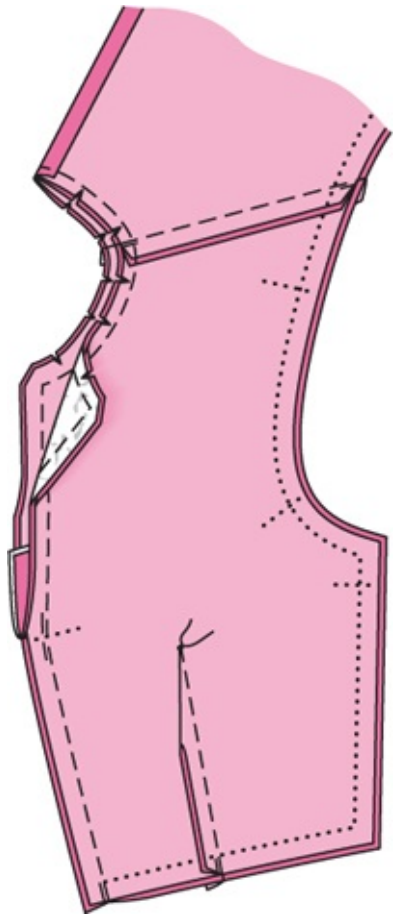


Figure 4

10. Remove the pins from the facing. Below the seam mark, pin the front facing edges, right sides together. Stitch, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam to secure (Figure 5).

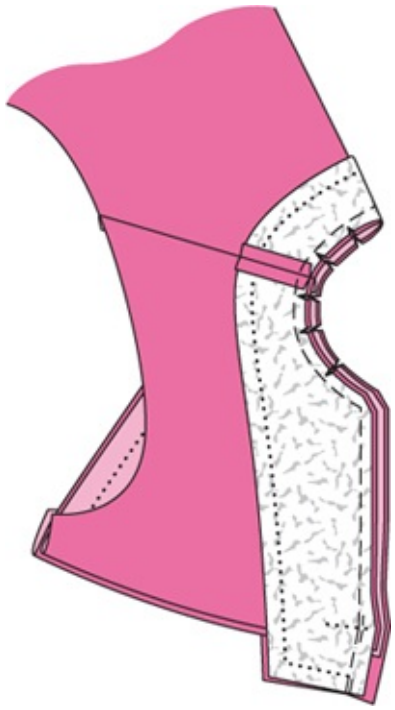


Figure 5

11. Press the seam allowances of the center front seam open. At the neck edge, turn the facing up and understitch as close to the seam as possible. Turn the facing to the inside and press the neck edges. Sew the inside facing edges to the seam allowances.

Fold Skirt Pleats

12. Fold the pleats in the front skirt panel in the direction of the arrows. Baste them down.

Attach Skirt

13. With right sides together, pin the front skirt panel to the front piece, matching dart lines to pleats, then stitch. With right sides together, pin the back skirt panel to the back piece, then stitch. Press the seam allowances up.

Sew Right Side Seams

14. With right sides together, pin the dress front to the dress back. Stitch the entire right side seam, from the bottom of the skirt to the edge of the armhole, backstitching at the beginning and end of the seam and matching the waistline seam. Press seam allowances open.

Invert Invisible Zipper

15. Pin the invisible zipper on the edge of the left side of the dress, positioning it between the markings on the pattern. The zipper teeth should begin at the top pattern marking and the top ends of the zipper tapes

should remain loose.

Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the zipper between the pattern markings. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.)

Sew Left Side Seam

16. With right sides together, stitch the left side seam above the zipper, then sew the remaining left side seam below the zipper, beginning at the lower skirt edge.

Sew and Set in Sleeves

17. With right sides together, stitch the front and back seams of one sleeve front and one sleeve back.

Repeat to sew the second sleeve.

Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) sleeve hem allowances to the inside, neaten the edges, and sew in place by hand.

18. Set in the sleeves. Pin each sleeve to one of the underarm armhole curves with right sides together, matching the lower sleeve seams and side seams (Figure 6).

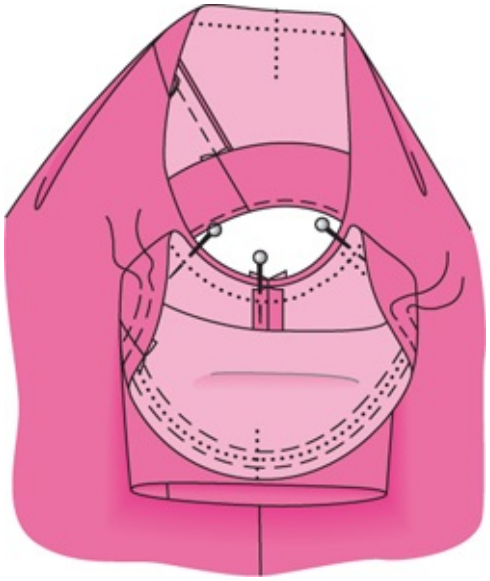


Figure 6

19. Pin the sleeve cap in place, distributing the fullness evenly around the armhole. Working from the sleeve side, baste and stitch the sleeve in place (Figure 7). Sew the sleeves to the armholes, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure.

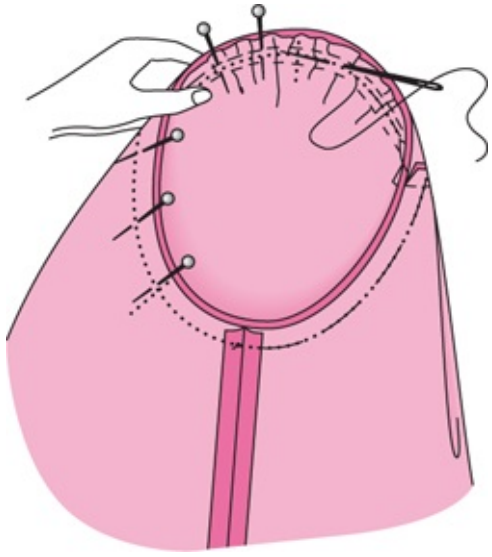


Figure 7

In the area of the sleeve cap, turn the seam allowances toward the sleeve.

Finish Hems

20. Press the 1⅝" (4 cm) hem allowance to the inside, neaten the edges using a zigzag stitch or by serging, and sew in place by hand.

Variation: Pleated Lace V-Neck Dress

A gossamer lace backed by silk pongee makes this version perfect for any sophisticated soiree.

Skill Level: ●●

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 34, 36, 38,40, 42

Finished length from the waist: 24" (61 cm)

Fi**nished sleeve length:** 18" (46 cm)

Materials

Cotton lace fabric, 26" (66 cm) wide: all sizes: 4 yd (3.6 m)

Silk pongee lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: sizes 34, 36, 38: 1⅝ yd (1.5 m); sizes 40, 42: 1¾ yd (1.6 m)

Lightweight fusible interfacing

Pattern Overview

Red pattern line

Sheet G, pattern pieces 1, 7, and 9

Sheet H, pattern pieces 2, 6, 8, and 10

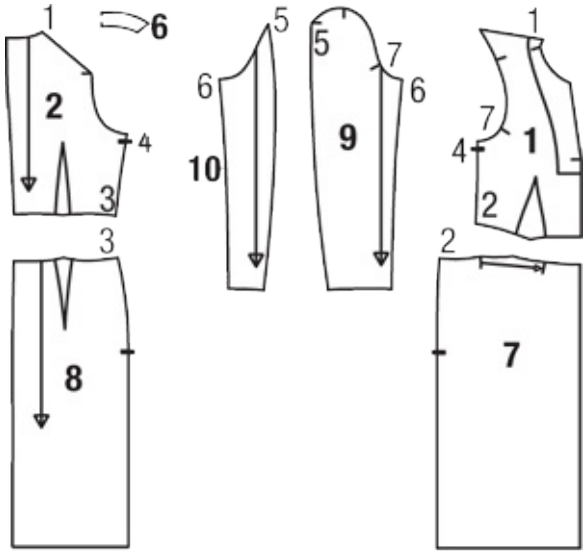
Size 34

Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42



Preparation, Cutting, and Constructions

Note: The lace variation of this dress does not have linings in the sleeves. When you stitch the sleeve front and sleeve back together, include the backing strips under the lace. Trim after sewing. The hem of the lace sleeves will be unfinished, so carefully align the lower sleeve edges when joining the seams.

See Sophisticated Silk V-Neck for instructions for the silk variation of this dress.

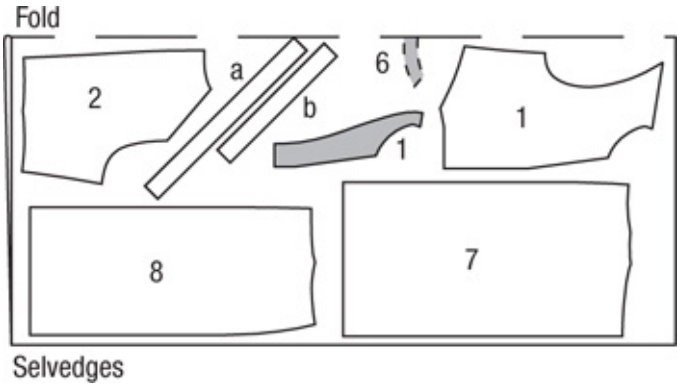
Mark and cut from silk pongee lining bias backing strips to finish the sleeve seams:
Piece a, back sleeve strip (cut 2):
17¾" × 1⅝" (45 × 4 cm)

Piece b, lower sleeve strip (cut 2):
12¾" × 1⅝" (32 × 4 cm)

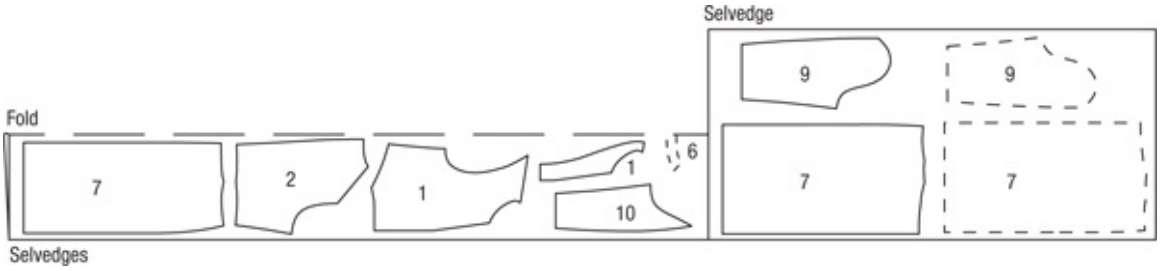
Cutting Layouts

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Cut shaded pieces from interfacing as well as lining. Place pieces shown with a broken outline printed side down.

Silk lining, 54" (137 cm) wide



Lace fabric, 26" (66 cm) wide



For an edgier version, try a contrasting shade of silk to peek through the lace overlay.

Fit and Flare Frock

Modest and playful, this frock features a raised waistline and front and back V-necklines. The calf-length skirt, ¾–length sleeves, and inverted pleats at the waist make this a feminine choice for any special occasion. The ideal fabric for this dress is organza with a cutwork pattern.

Skill Level: ●●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 32½" (82.5 cm)

Finished sleeve length: 18" (46 cm)

Materials

Organza with a cutwork pattern, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: sizes 36, 38: 2⅝ yd (2.4 m); size 40: 2 ¾ yd (2.5 m); sizes 42, 44: 2⅞ yd (2.6 m)

Lightweight lining, 54" (137 cm) wide: size 36: 1⅞ yd (1.7 m); size 38: 2 yd (1.8 m); sizes 40, 42: 2⅛ yd (1.9 m); size 44: 2¼ yd (2.1 m)

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Red pattern line

Sheet C, pattern pieces 2, 4, and 7

Sheet D, pattern pieces 1, 3, 5, 5a, and 6

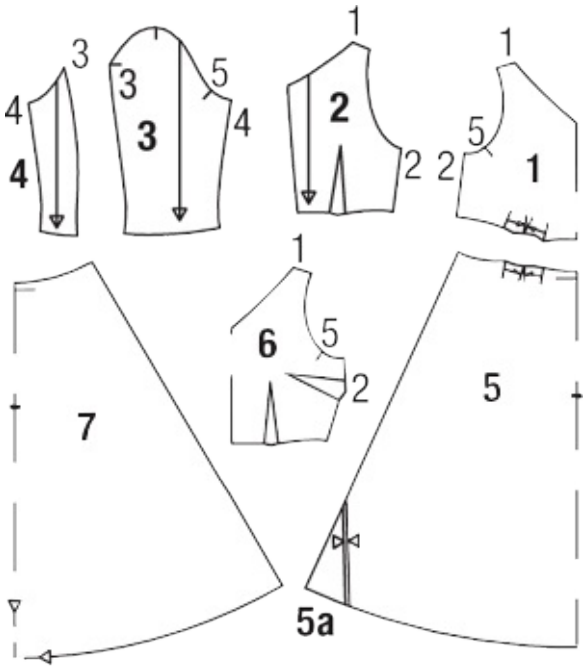
Size 36

Size 38

Size 40

Size 42

Size 44



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 1 to 7 from the pattern insert, transferring all of the pattern markings and lines, including the dart lines and pleat lines.

Connect the end points on piece 7to complete the pattern piece.

Trace pieces 5 and 7 a second time to make cutting out the skirt easier. To convert one piece 5 into the back skirt and one piece 7 into the back skirt lining, add a ⅝" (1.5 cm) seam allowance to the fold indicated at the edge of each piece.

The pleat arrows on piece 1 are marked for size 36. For all other sizes, extend the pleat arrows to the size lines for the dress you are making.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces. Tape together pieces 5 and 5a on the joining lines.

Cutting

Fold the fabric in half lengthwise, right sides together, and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Match the fabric cutwork pattern at the seams. Pin the pieces in place.

Cut from organza:
Piece 1, bodice front–1 on the fold
Piece 2, bodice back–2
Piece 3, sleeve front–2
Piece 4, sleeve back–2
Piece 5, front skirt panel–1 on the fold
Piece 5, back skirt panel–2 with added seam allowance

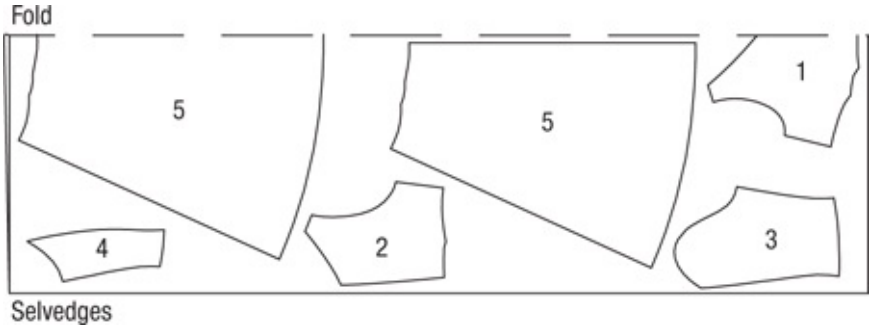
Cut from lining:
Piece 2, bodice back–2
Piece 6, bodice front–1 on the fold
Piece 7, front skirt panel–1 on the fold
Piece 7, back skirt panel–2 with added seam allowance

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the neck and armhole edges of the bodice lining pieces.

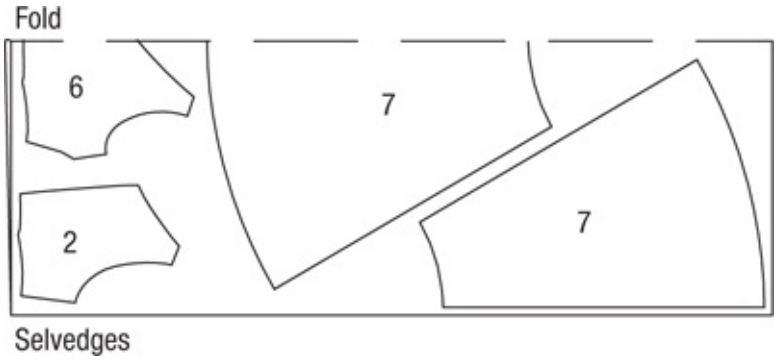
Cutting Layouts

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together. Match fabric pattern at seams.

Organza, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Lining, 54" (137 cm) wide



Construction

Stitch Darts

1. Fold the two organza bodice back pieces, right sides together, down the center of the darts. Stitch on the dart lines, beginning at the outside edges. Backstitch only at the beginning of the seam. Press the darts toward the center of the back.

Fold Pleats

2. Fold the pleats on the lower edge of the bodice front and the upper edges of the organza front skirt panel and the organza back skirt panel in the direction of the arrows. Baste in place.

Sew Side and Shoulder Seams

3. With right sides together, lay the two bodice back pieces on the bodice front piece. Pin, then stitch the two side seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam. Press the seam allowances open.

4. Pin, then stitch the shoulder seams, beginning and ending the stitching exactly at the marked neck edge. Press the seam allowances open.

5. With right sides together, layer and pin the back skirt panel on the front skirt panel. Stitch both side seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Press the seam allowances open.

Stitch Skirt to Bodice

6. With right sides together, place the lower edge of the bodice onto the upper edge of the skirt. Pin around the waist, then stitch the skirt to the bodice. Press the seam allowances up.

Install Invisible Zipper

7. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper in place in the center back of the bodice and skirt, aligning the waistline seams. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.)

Stitch Center Back Seam

8. With right sides together, pin and sew the center back seam. Begin at the lower edge of the skirt and stitch up to the end of the zipper.

Sew Lining

9. Fold the bodice front lining in half, right sides together, down the center of the darts. Stitch on the dart lines, beginning at the outside edges. Backstitch only at the beginning of the seam. Press the darts toward the center.

Repeat for the bodice back lining.

10. With right sides together, pin the two bodice back lining pieces on the bodice front lining piece and sew the side seams and the shoulder seams.

11. With right sides together, pin the two back skirt panels to the front skirt panels and sew the side seams of the skirt lining, backstitching at the beginning and end of seams to secure.

12. Attach the bodice lining to the skirt lining as in Step 6. Sew the center back seam in the lining, starting at the bottom of the skirt. Stop stitching ¾" (2 cm) below the end of the zipper opening.

Attach Lining

13. Pin the lining, right sides together, with the neck edge of the dress. At the zipper opening, turn the lining back 3⁄16" (5 mm) before the opening edge and pin to the neck edge. At the opening edges of the dress, turn the seam allowances to the outside and pin to the neck edge over the lining. Stitch along the neck edge. Trim the seam allowances and clip the curves.

14. At the center front neck edge, clip the seam allowances into the inside point of the neck edge. Turn the lining and seam allowances at the opening edges to the inside of the dress. Sew the lining to the zipper tapes. Baste the lining to the dress at the armhole edges.

Sew and Set In Sleeves

15. With right sides together, pin the sleeve front pieces to the sleeve back pieces. Make sure seam numbers 3 and 4 match exactly. Sew the sleeve seams. Trim the seam allowances to ¼" (6 mm), neaten the edges together, then press them toward the back.

16. Press the ¾" (2 cm) sleeve hem allowances to the inside, then fold under by half of the width. Sew the sleeve hem in place by hand.

17. Slip the sleeves into the armholes, right sides together, and pin in place. Make sure that seam number 5 matches exactly on the sleeves and the armhole. Set in the sleeves, evenly distributing the fullness around the sleeve cap.

Finish Hems

18. Press the ⅝" (1.5 cm) dress hem allowance to the inside, neaten the edges using a zigzag stitch or by serging, and sew in place by hand. Press the ⅝" (1.5 cm) lining hem allowance to the inside, neaten the edges, and sew in place. The hem lining should be ¾" (2 cm) shorter than the dress hem.

Little Black Dress

No woman’s wardrobe is complete without the perfect LBD. This classic staple is even better when you’ve customized it to flatter and fit you perfectly. This sleeveless Little Black Dress features an angled empire waist, a gathered center seam, and a flared skirt. Make it with lustrous Duchesse satin, and you’ll never feel like you have nothing to wear to a formal event.

Gold accessories, sparingly used, are the perfect accompaniment for this little black dress.

Skill Level: ●●◐

Sizes

BurdaStyle sizes 36, 38, 40, 42, 44

Finished length from the waist: 23" (58.5 cm)

Materials

Duchesse satin, 60" (152.5 cm) wide: all sizes: 1¾ yd (1.6 m)

Chiffon lining (bodice only), 54" (137 cm) wide: all sizes: ⅝ yd (0.6 m)

Notions: Fusible bias stay tape; 1 invisible zipper, 24" (61 cm) long; invisible zipper foot

Pattern Overview

Black pattern line

Sheet A, pattern pieces 23 and 24

Sheet B, pattern pieces 21, 22, and 25

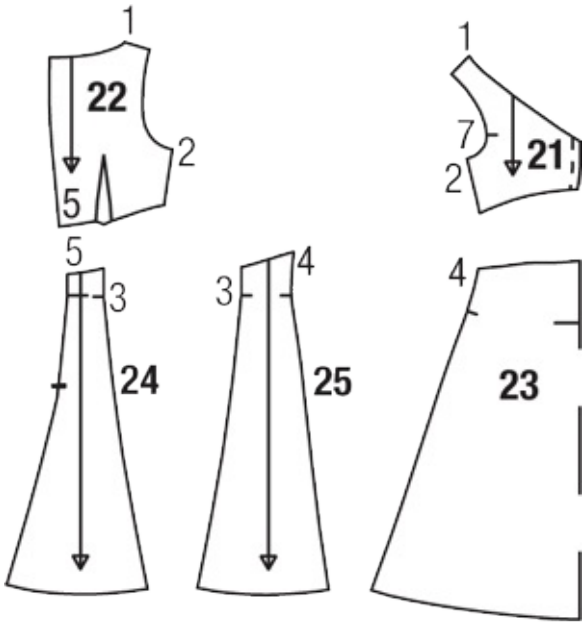
Size 36 _____

Size 38 __ __ __

Size 40 _ - - _ - - _ - -

Size 42 ...._ ...._

Size 44 ~~~~~~~~~~



Preparation

Double check the pattern lines for the size dress you are making.

Trace pieces 21 to 25 onto pattern paper. Transfer all of the pattern markings and lines, including the dart lines.

Cut out the paper pattern pieces.

Cutting

Fold the fabric in half lengthwise, right sides together, and lay out the pattern pieces as shown in the cutting layout. Pin them in place.

Cut from Duchesse satin:

Piece 21, front–2

Piece 22, back–2

Piece 23, front skirt panel–1 on the fold

Piece 24, center back skirt panel–2

Piece 25, side back skirt panel–2

Fold the lining in half lengthwise, right sides together, and cut:

Piece 21, front–2

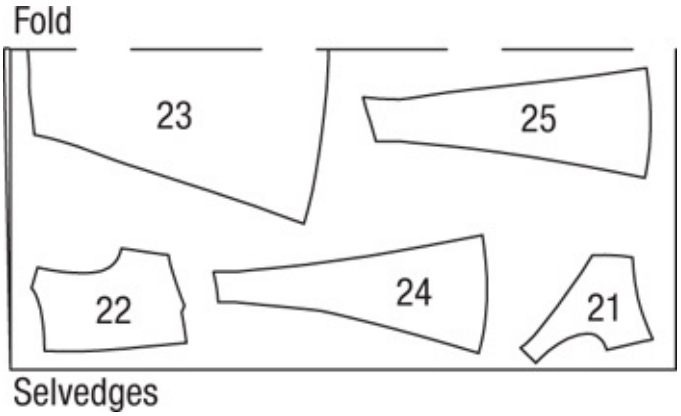
Piece 22, back–2

Fuse the bias stay tape to the wrong side of the neck and armhole edges on the front and back pieces.

Cutting Layout

Fold fabric as shown, right sides together.

Duchesse satin, 60" (152.5 cm) wide



Construction

Gather and Sew Center Front Seam

1. To gather the center front seam edge of each front piece, baste one line of stitching just inside the seam allowance. Baste a second line of stitching inside the seam line ¼" (6 mm) away from the first. Pull the bobbin threads together to gather, then knot the threads. The length of the gathered center front seam should be:

Size 36: 1⅝" (4 cm)

Size 38: 1⅞" (4.7 cm)

Size 40: 2" (5 cm)

Size 42: 2¼" (5.5 cm)

Size 44: 2⅜" (6 cm)

2. Place the two front pieces right sides together and pin. Stitch the center front seam, beginning at the marked neck edge.

Stitch Darts

3. Fold the back pieces in half, right sides together, down the center of the darts. Stitch on the dart lines, beginning at the outside edge. Backstitch only at the beginning of the dart seams. Press the darts toward the center of the garment.

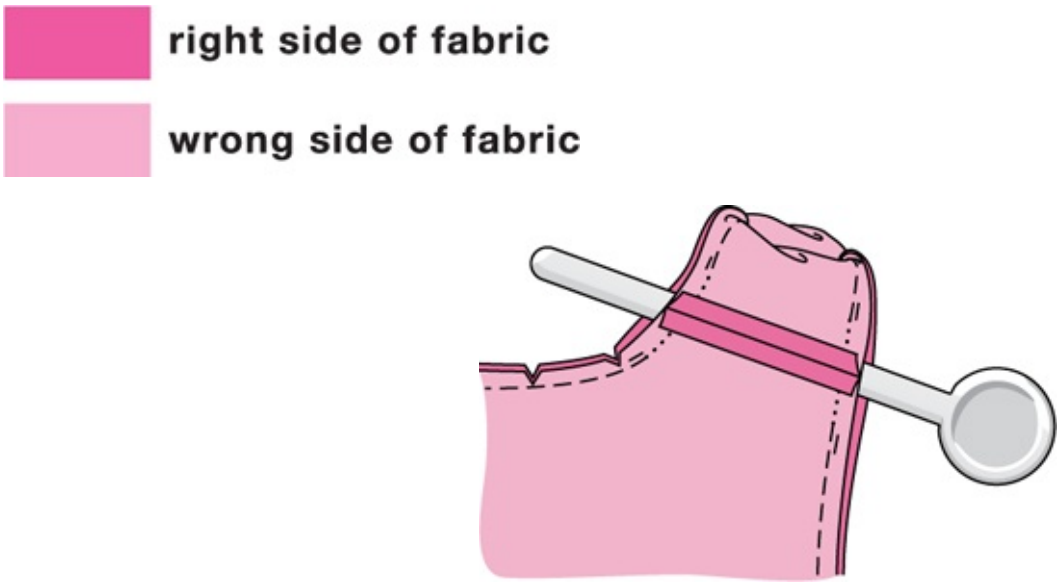


Figure 1

Sew Bodice Side Seams

4. With right sides together, pin the two back pieces to the dress front along the side edges. Stitch the side seams of the bodice, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Press the seam allowances open.

Sew Lining

5. Gather the front lining pieces as in Step 1. Stitch the center front seam of the front lining as in Step 2.

6. Stitch the darts in the back lining pieces as in Step 3.

7. Stitch the back lining pieces to the front lining pieces as in Step 4.

Attach Lining

8. Pin the lining pieces to the front and back dress pieces, right sides together. Stitch along the neck and armhole edges, beginning and ending ¾" (2 cm) below each shoulder seam line. Trim the seam allowances and clip the curves close to the stitching.

9. In the front—but not the back—turn the lining to the inside. Slide the front shoulder edges between the as-yet-unturned back shoulder edges. The right sides of the dress front and back and the lining are together. Stitch the shoulder seams of the dress and lining.

10. Pull the dress front and lining, which lie inside, up and out slightly, and press the seam allowances open. This will be easier if you slip the handle of a wooden spoon under the seams (Figure 1).

11. Stitch the remaining open edges closed. Pull the dress front down out of the back shoulder edges, which will force the back lining to turn itself to the inside.

12. Understitch the lining to the seam allowances at the neck and armhole edges as close as possible to the seam. Press the edges.

13. Baste the lower front and back lining edges in place, matching the raw edges.

Assemble Skirt

14. Pin the two side back skirt panels to the two center back skirt panels, right sides together, matching exactly notch 3. Stitch the two back section side seams. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Press the seam allowances open. Do not stitch the center seam.

15. With right sides together, pin the back skirt to the front skirt panel, matching notch 4 exactly. Stitch the side seams, backstitching at the beginning and end of each seam to secure. Press the seam allowances open.

Sew Skirt to Bodice

16. With right sides together, align the upper edge of the skirt with the lower edge of the lined bodice. Pin, then stitch to attach the skirt to the bodice. Neaten the seam allowances and press them down.

Insert Invisible Zipper

17. Using an invisible zipper foot, sew the invisible zipper to the back opening edges. (See instructions on installing an invisible zipper.) Begin and end at the neck edge and leave the upper ends of the zipper

tapes extending. Turn in the upper ends of the zipper tapes and sew in place by hand.

Stitch Center Back Seam

18. Stitch the center back seam, starting at the lower edge of the skirt and ending at the zipper. Backstitch at the beginning and end of the seam to secure.

Finish Hem

19. Press the ⅝" (1.5 cm) hem to the inside, neaten the edges with zigzagging or by serging, and sew in place by hand.

Glossary of Terms and Techniques

Backstitch: Stitch in reverse for a short distance at the beginning and end of a seam line to secure the stitches. Most machines have a button or knob for this function (also called backtack).

Baste: Use long, loose stitches to hold something in place temporarily. To baste by machine, use the longest straight stitch length available on your machine. To baste by hand, use stitches at least ¼" (6 mm) long. Use a contrasting thread to make the stitches easier to spot for removal.

Bias: The direction across a fabric that is located at a 45-degree angle from the lengthwise or crosswise grain, the bias has high stretch and a very fluid drape.

Bias tape: Made from fabric strips cut on a 45-degree angle to the grainline, the bias cut creates an edging fabric that will stretch to enclose straight or curved edges. You can buy bias tape ready-made or make your own.

Clip the corners: Clipping the corners of a project reduces bulk and allows for crisper corners in the finished project. To clip, cut off a triangle-shaped piece of fabric across the corner seam allowances. Cut close to the seam line but be careful not to cut through the stitches.

Clipping curves: Clipping curves involves cutting tiny slits or triangles into the seam allowance of curved edges so the seam will lie flat when turned right side out. Cut slits along concave curves and triangles (with points toward the seam line) along a convex curve. Be careful not to clip into the stitches.

D**art**: This stitched triangular fold is used to give shape and form to the fabric to fit body curves.

Edgestitch: Place a row of topstitching very close (1⁄16"–⅛" [2–3 mm]) to an edge or an existing seam line.

Fabric grain: The grain is created in a woven fabric by the threads that travel lengthwise and crosswise. The lengthwise grain runs parallel to the selvedges; the crosswise grain should always be perpendicular to the lengthwise threads. If the grains aren't completely straight and perpendicular, grasp the fabric at diagonally opposite corners and pull gently to restore the grain. In knit fabrics, the lengthwise grain runs along the wales (ribs), parallel to the edges, with the crosswise grain running along the courses (perpendicular to the wales).

Finger press: Press a fold or crease with your fingers as opposed to using an iron.

Grainline: A pattern mark showing the direction of the grain, the grainline marked on the pattern must run parallel to the lengthwise grain of your fabric, unless the grainline is specifically designated as crosswise

or bias.

Interfacing: Used to stabilize or reinforce fabrics, fusible interfacing has an adhesive coating on one side that bonds to fabric when ironed.

Lining: The inner fabric of a garment, lining is used to create a finished interior that covers the seam raw edges.

Overcast stitch: A machine stitch wraps around the fabric raw edge to finish edges and prevent fraying. Some sewing machines have several overcast stitch options; consult your sewing machine manual for information on stitch settings and the appropriate presser foot for the chosen stitch (often the standard presser foot can be used). A zigzag stitch can be used as an alternative to finish raw edges if your machine doesn't have an overcast stitch function.

Pretreat/Preshrink: Many fabrics shrink when washed; you need to wash, dry, and press all your fabric before you start to sew, following the suggested cleaning method marked on the fabric bolt (keep in mind that the appropriate cleaning method may not be machine washing, as some fabrics require dry cleaning). Don't skip this step!

Right side: This is the front side or the side of the fabric that should be on the outside of a finished garment. On a print fabric, the print will be stronger on the right side of the fabric.

Right sides together: The right sides of two fabric layers should be facing each other.

Seam allowance: The amount of fabric that must be between the raw edge and the stitched seam.

Selvedge: This is the tightly woven border on the lengthwise edges of woven and knit fabric.

Topstitch: Used to hold pieces firmly in place and to add a decorative effect, a topstitch is simply a stitch that can be seen on the outside of the garment or piece. To topstitch, make a line of stitching on the outside (right side) of the piece, usually a set distance from an existing seam or edge.

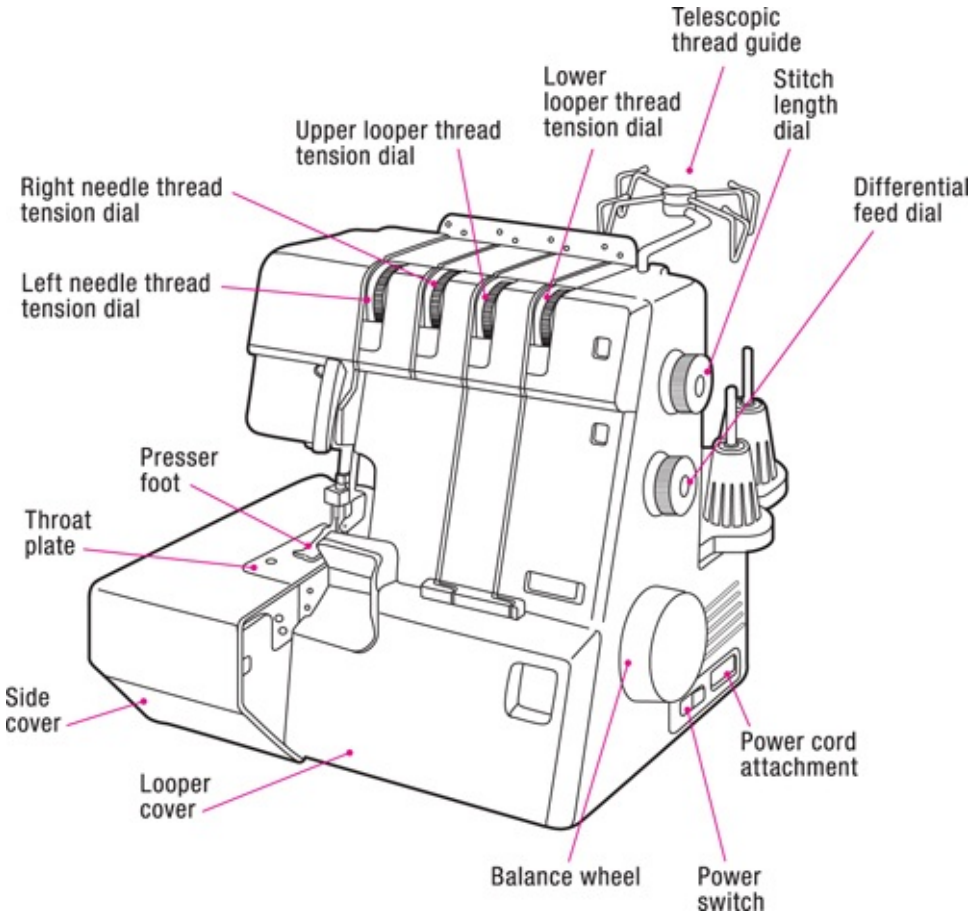
Wrong side: This is the underside or the side of the fabric that should be on the inside of a finished garment. On a print fabric, the print will be lighter or less obvious on the wrong side of the fabric.

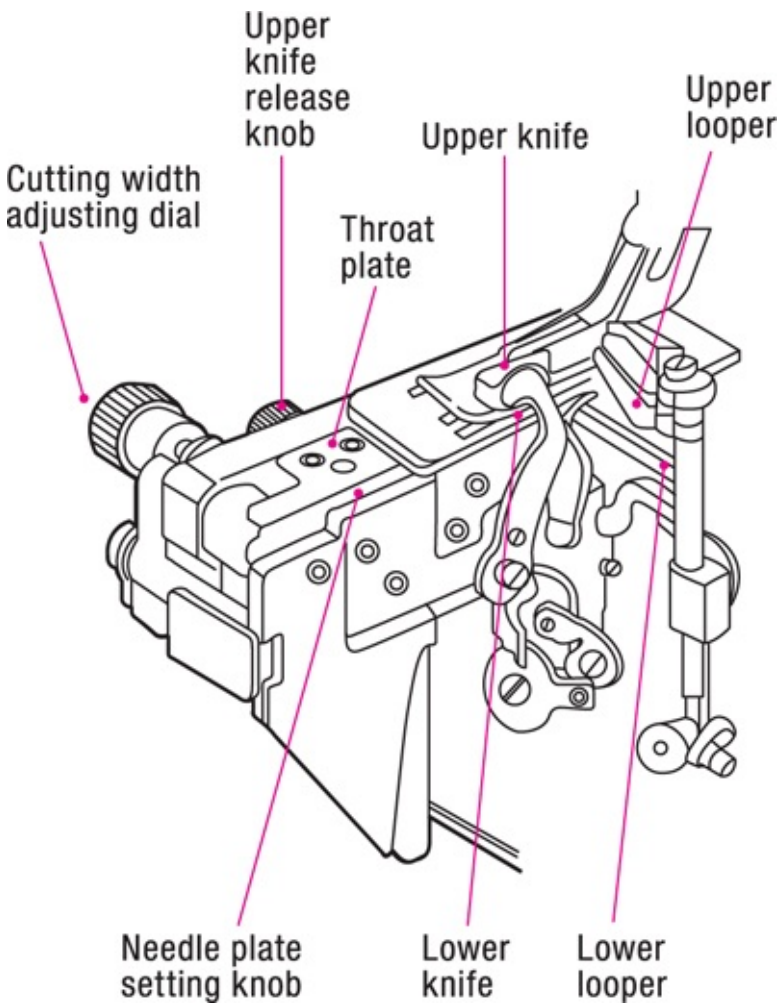
Simplifying the Serger

Get the most from the specialty machine that’s on many sewists’ wish lists.

A serger (sometimes referred to as an overlock or overlocker) finishes fabric raw edges and trims them at the same time. These functions can be used to sew seams or simply as a finishing option for seam allowances or hem edges. Sergers are also used for sewing knits because they allow the seam to stretch without any thread breakage. The machine is fast and efficient, and it gives the inside of a garment a professionally finished look.

Here’s an overview of the serger and some key details that will help you make the most of using one.





Parts of the Serger

These are common parts of a serger—yours may be slightly different depending on the brand and the features it offers. The number of needles (and threads) may vary—some sergers use only one needle, others two; some machines offer various needle configurations for novelty stitch formations.

There are several stitch configurations available on a serger, but the most common are 3-thread and 4-thread for seaming.

Threading the Serger

Threading the serger takes time initially, but with patience and practice, you'll gain confidence and be able to do it faster and easier each time. Here are some tips to help:

- Raise the presser foot before threading to allow the threads to pass easily through the tension disks.
- Thread the serger with one thread cone at a time starting on the right of the machine and working left.
- Follow the threading path on the diagram in your manual or inside the serger looper cover.

- Make sure the telescopic thread guide is fully extended.
- Pass the thread through all thread guides and then through the eye of the looper or needle from front to back.
- Make sure the thread is pulled firmly into the corresponding tension disk.
- As you finish with each thread, make sure to place the tail between the presser foot and the throat plate and extend it toward the back of the machine.
- Lower the presser foot and press the foot pedal to test the stitching.

For everything above, double check the manual in case the specifications of your particular model are different. And if any threads come out of the needle or looper eye, rethread it from scratch—remove every thread from the serger and thread it again, starting with the thread cone on the right.

Adjusting Tension

Getting the perfect tension is probably the most challenging part of working with a serger. In general, the machine should have standard tension settings as a recommended starting point. The goal is for the stitch to have no loose threads or puckering, and the upper and lower looper threads should connect exactly at the fabric raw edge.

The easiest way to test serger tension is to use a different thread color in each needle and looper so you can readily see which one might need adjustment.

Do a stitching test by running a swatch of your project fabric through the serger. If your thread tension isn’t perfect, first check that the serger is threaded properly. Then evaluate the sample serge and adjust the corresponding tension dial: Increase the number to increase thread tension, decrease the number to decrease thread tension. Run another swatch of fabric through and adjust the tension dials as needed until the serged seam is just right.

- Adjust only one tension disk dial at a time.
- Change your tension dial by only one number at a time.

Serger tension can be finicky. It isn’t the same as on your conventional machine. You may need to adjust your tension when working with different fabrics, when you change threads, or when you alter the stitch

configuration. Consider keeping a swatch book of fabric samples and record the tension settings on various fabric and thread combinations. But always do a test before you start your project!

Serging Seams

When serging a seam, line up the fabric edge with the seam guide on the needle plate—this will allow the needle(s) to stitch along the actual seam line. It also allows the knife to trim the fabric edge as it overcasts it, making a neater finish.

Maintenance

Because a serger uses so many threads, and because it's also constantly cutting fabric, a lot of dust can accumulate inside the serger. It's important to cover the serger when it's not in use and clean it regularly. Use a small serger vacuum, a brush, or a square of fleece fabric to keep the inside area dust free. And clean the tension disks by sliding a folded piece of cotton fabric or lining between the disks.

Using a serger gives your seams a finished, professional look.

Differential Feed

When a serger has two separate sets of feed dogs, it has what’s called differential feed. Differential feed allows you to control how fast fabric is pulled through the machine, allowing it to be stretched or eased. The back set of feed dogs maintains a consistent speed, and you can adjust the front set to go faster or slower. By adjusting the serger’s differential feed, you can accommodate the varying stretchiness of different fabrics.

Resources

BurdaStyle Website

burdastyle.com

Fabric and Notions

Hancock Fabrics

hancockfabrics.com

Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores

joann.com

M&J Trimming

1008 Sixth Ave.
New York, NY 10018
(800) 965-8746
mjtrim.com

Mood

225 W. 37th St.
New York, NY 10018
(212) 730-5003
moodfabrics.com

Books

BurdaStyle Modern Sewing: Wardrobe Essentials. Fort Collins, Colorado: Interweave, 2014.

The Complete Book of Sewing: A Practical Step-by-Step Guide to Every Technique. New York: Dorling Kindersley, 2003.

The New Complete Guide to Sewing: Step-by-Step Techniques for Making Clothes and Home Accessories. New York: Reader's Digest, 2010.

Vasbinder, Nicole. Sewing Machine Secrets: The Insider's Guide to Mastering Your Machine. Fort Collins, Colorado: Interweave, 2013.

Vasbinder, Nicole. Sewing Solutions: Tips and Advice for the Savvy Sewist. Fort Collins, Colorado: Interweave, 2012.

Wild, Denise. Mend and Make Fabulous: Sewing Solutions and Fabulous Fixes. Fort Collins, Colorado: Interweave, 2014.

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TABLE

WOMEN'S SIZE CHART (Regular) inches															
Burda Size	**32**	**34**	**36**	**38**	**40**	**42**	**44**	**46**	**48**	**50**	**52**	**54**	**56**	**58**	**60**
Height	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼	66¼
Bust	30	31½	33	34¾	36 ¼	37¾	39½	41	43½	45½	48	50½	52¾	55¼	57½
Waist	23	24½	26	27¾	29 ¼	30¾	32½	34	36¼	38¾	41	43½	45½	48	50½
Hips	32½	34	35½	37	38¾	40¼	41¾	43½	45½	48	50½	52¾	55¼	57½	60
Back Waist Length	15¾	16	16¼	16½	16⅙	16¾	17	17⅛	17¼	17½	17¾	18	18¼	18½	18½
Arm Length	23¼	23¼	23¼	23¾	23¾	24	24	24	24	24½	24½	24¾	24¾	24¾	24¾
Neck Circumference	13	13⅜	13¾	14⅛	14½	15	15⅜	15¾	16⅛	16½	17	17¼	17¾	18⅛	18½
Front Waist Length	16½	17	17¼	17¾	18⅛	18½	19	19¼	19¾	20¼	20½	21	21¼	21¾	22¼
Bust Depth	9½	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞	12 ¼	12¾	13	13½	14 ¼	14½	14¾	15
Upper Arm Circumference	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞	12¼	12¾	13½	14½	15	15¾	16½	17 ¼	18¼

Return to main text

WOMEN'S SIZE CHART (Petite) inches								
These sizes are BurdaStyle petite sizes and differ in height from the regular sizes. The height measurements are from 63 to 66¼ inches. If you are taller than 66¼ inches, you can make alterations to the length of the garment, the sleeve length, etc. to fit your measurements.								
Burda Size	**16**	**17**	**18**	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**
Height	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
Bust	30	31½	33	34¾	36¼	37¾	39½	41
Waist	23	24½	26	27¾	29¼	30¾	32½	34
Hip	32½	34	35½	37	38¾	40¼	41¾	43½
Back Waist Length	15	15¼	15⅜	15¾	16	16⅛	16¼	16⅜
Arm Length	22½	22½	22½	23	23	23¼	23¼	23¼
Neck Circumference	13	13⅜	13¾	14⅛	14½	15	15⅜	15¾
Side Leg Length	38¼	38¾	38¾	39	39½	39½	39¾	39¾
Front Waist Length	15¾	16¼	16½	17	17¼	17¾	18⅛	18½
Bust Depth	9⅛	9½	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞
Upper Arm Circumference	9⅞	10¼	10¾	11⅛	11½	11⅞	12¼	12¾

Return to main text